



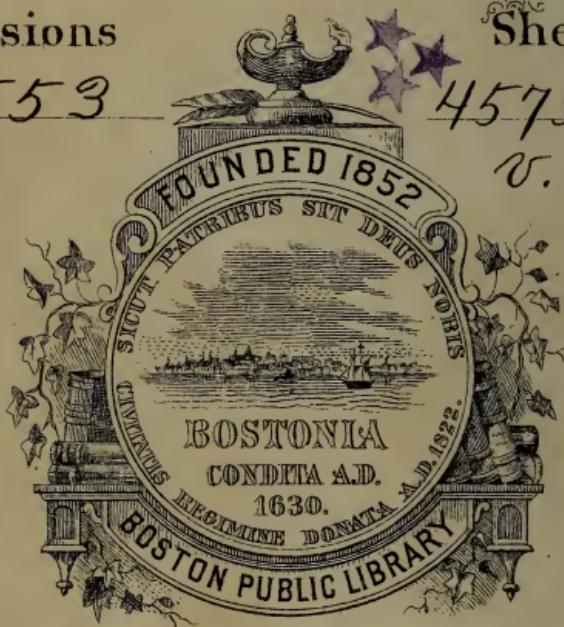
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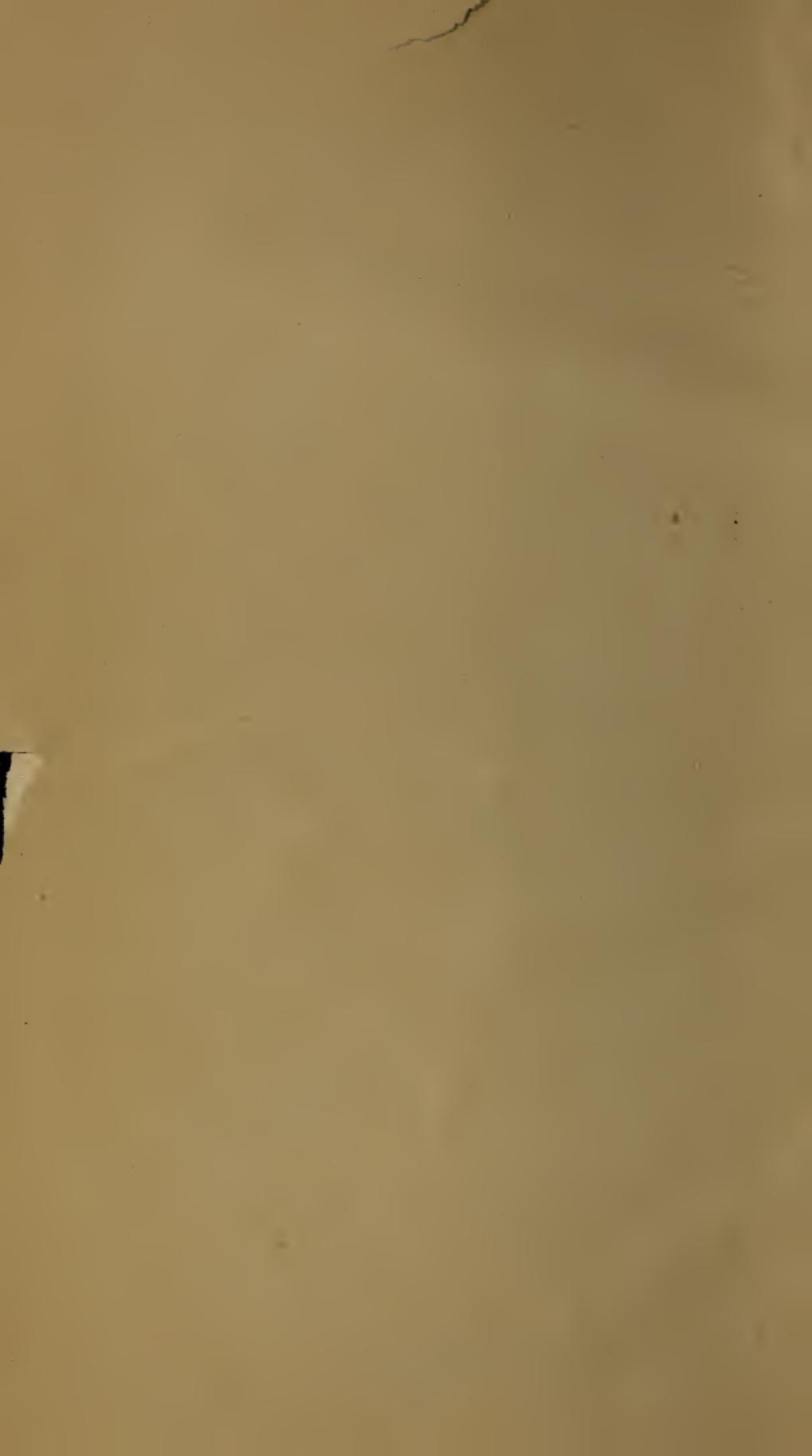
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THE
ADVENTURES
OF A
SPECULIST;
OR, A
JOURNEY THROUGH LONDON.

COMPILED FROM PAPERS WRITTEN BY
GEORGE ALEXANDER STEVENS,
(AUTHOR OF A LECTURE UPON HEADS)

WITH HIS
LIFE, a PREFACE, CORRECTIONS, and NOTES,
BY THE EDITOR.

EXHIBITING A
PICTURE
OF THE
MANNERS, FASHIONS, AMUSEMENTS, &c.
OF THE
METROPOLIS
AT THE
MIDDLE OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY:

AND INCLUDING
SEVERAL FUGITIVE PIECES OF HUMOUR,
By the Same AUTHOR,
NOW FIRST COLLECTED AND PUBLISHED.

VOL. II.

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A D V E N T U R E S
O F A
S P E C U L I S T;
O R, A
JOURNEY THROUGH LONDON.

LIFE of a WOMAN of the TOWN
Continued.

WHEN I left JENNY DOUGLAS's,
I set up for myself in a snug
way. I hired a very convenient house in
the City, with a back door that opened II
into

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into a church-yard; and there I received company, but extremely private. Many and many a good grave customer have I had step in after he has been at Evening-Lecture. But it is an old saying, that if you can but once make the world believe you are good, you have no occasion to be so. This I used to see verified by my customers, who I took care should be very responsible people, masters of great fortune and large families, and who, both at the Court-end of the Town and in the City, were looked upon to be the most religious and most virtuous men in it.

As to their Virtue, if the meaning of that term was to be confined to chastity, they were strictly virtuous, through the impotency of age or bodily infirmities, but as libidinous in their minds as drunken

ken Satyrs.—Faugh! I can hardly forbear spitting at their memories, when I reflect on the old goatish dotards—their vanities—their lusts—their meanness, and, what seems a paradox, their prodigalities; for though they would spare no expence upon the woman who would gratify them in their loathsome desires, yet would they be pleased if they could pay half-a-guinea short in the reckoning.

IN both these despicable tastes did I indulge them. I suffered my person to be at their service now and then, and would often cast up a reckoning nine or ten shillings short: at this they would chuckle; and I have seen their spectacles totter upon their pinched-in noses, as they have giggled inwardly at my mistake, as they thought it, which they

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never would tell me of, but paid the bill immediately.

ONE old gallant I had, who was looked upon to be a most covetous wretch, and was so to all the world but me. He was the worst of husbands, as well as the worst of masters; for he has made several of his manufacturers make away with themselves, by distressing and oppressing them.—His way was, to order a quantity of goods, and when the poor people had nearly finished them, pretend his orders from abroad were countermanded; that he did not want them; and if they would not take half price for them, they might lay upon their hands. By these means he had acquired a ministerial fortune, while his manufacturers perished, who could not sue him for not paying them, as he set them at work.

work.—For this I know, from my own observation, that although the English laws are most excellent, they never yet sheltered the industrious poor from purse-proud oppression.

YET this man to me was profuse. But what is it that Vice cannot draw money from? I was looked upon to have a very handsome leg and foot, and he would make me stand upon the stairs for half an hour at a time, while he stood below me, looking at them. How did I use to curse him in my heart for confining me so long in so insipid a manner! Then he would undress my feet and legs, and kiss my *footfies*, as he used to call them: and this was all the familiarity he ever thought proper to make use of with me. But I was always obliged to sup with him, and then he

made me feed him, as if he was a baby. He however paid very dear for the fatigue he gave me. I abhorred him, but he was rich ; and I, like a true Prostitute, considered money as the first principle of all things.

I HAD another gallant who was in the Commission of the Peace, and a very severe man against strumpets and street-walkers. When he visited me (which was generally upon a Sunday evening, at his return from the Evening Lecture, which he used to go to at the church close to which my house stood, for the convenience of stealing in at my back door—to so good a purpose did he dedicate his religion)—he would repeat the speeches that he had made at Sessions, or Vestry, or Hall ; and I was obliged to hear all his harangues,

JOURNEY THROUG LONDON. 7

rangues against the licentiousness of the age, and the debaucheries, the vices, and rebellious principles of the nation;— that it was a shame the English should have any liberty, since they only made use of it to fly in their superiors faces; that no people but rich folks could be great folks; and no body but such great folks could be judges of any thing. Then he talked to me about economy, and how proper it was at this juncture to set about a reformation of manners; and that passive obedience was what ought to be inculcated among all ranks of people.

GOD help me! I was indeed forced with him to shew passive obedience, which I detested; but he made me liberal presents, and therefore it was

worth my while once a week, I thought, to endure him for an hour.

I HAD a third gallant who gave me five guineas, besides bringing me some pretty presents at every turn, who used to visit me twice a-week, only to comb out my head of hair. It was very long, and of a very fine bright auburn colour; and thus would he sit employing himself for an hour, and then take his leave. This man was one of the richest men in 'Change alley, and of so unfeeling a temper, that he suffered his only son to perish in the Marshalsea prison, because the young man had married an unportioned young lady of extraordinary merit without the old fellow's consent.

I DARE.

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I DARE not stain my paper with those enormous scenes of superannuated debauchery which I have been, much against my will, an eye-witness to. I was a Prostitute, an avaritious Prostitute, and for money suffered men to possess my person—though I despised them; yet hypocrisy taught me to be submissive to my patrons—to those who were so lavish of their presents to me..

YET in this was I worse than the generality of the world? I am sure, if we look among the majority of mankind, and examine into the origin of many equipages, many estates, and many premiums and preferments, shall we not find that several of the possessors obtained those luxuries by Prostitution?—I could, if I dared, mention some names, who now hold their heads very high,

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and are greatly stared at, who owe all their advancement to their meanness ; and if they had not been the most vile, would never have been *****.

BUSINESS began to encrease so fast, that I was obliged to look out for a lady to assist me. I visited a particular and a tried friend, and told her my scheme of bringing her in to be partner with me : she was overjoyed at the proposal, and next day came to live with me.

DURING my residence in this house, I admitted no young fellows to visit me ; no man under forty stepped over my threshold, as a guest. I knew the danger of suffering youth to indulge themselves in any licentiousness : they were proud of making it a parade ; while, on the contrary, I had a staid demure

set

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set of old impotent gallants, who, altho' they were as wicked as it was possible for vice to contrive, yet wore such a ceremonious sanctity, were reputed such good, pious and chaste men, that they were as much afraid of being discovered as I could be.

BUT what astonished me most was, that these old fellows (who were looked upon as wise men among one another, and whose names I sometimes read in the News-papers as being concerned in works of consequence, or as being elected to consider about affairs of importance) I ever found to be men of weak intellects, persons of uneven, very uneven minds, and that the sense which they had was greatly overbalanced by folly and impotent passions.

I COULD not reconcile to myself, how men should appear in public to possess consequence in their understandings, and yet in private be mere drivellers.—I knew they were *not* wise men ; and I could not guess by what legerdemain and finesse they could palm themselves as sages upon the rest of the world.

WRINKLED, chop-fallen, blear-eyed, and broken-winded, with ham-trembling gait and gouty legs, they would suffer me to praise them, and believe me when I told them, that they looked comely and healthful ; that they were grown young again ; that they had fine spirits, and strong constitutions ; nay, I have persuaded men of sixty to dress like boys of sixteen, and have their full-buckled bobs new-made with bag-wig fronts to them.

CER-

CERTAINLY, thought I to myself, this phrase of being *a man of sense* is a cant term, and not a title which people deserve to whom it is generally given; or there is certainly a great deal of common-place or mechanical method in what is called wisdom. I wanted to be satisfied. I had often dressed myself in mens' cloaths, and was easy in them. Procuring myself therefore a suit with a furtout and boots, and dressed like a countryman, I called upon a gentleman, an old acquaintance of mine, told him what I wanted to be satisfied about, and requested him to introduce me to some of the Clubs which he frequented at Taverns.

HE very readily agreed to pilot me among them, but laughed at my scheme, and told me, that the more I
con-

conversed with men, the less I should admire their understandings; and that if I expected to meet with men even of common sense among these evening parties, I should be terribly disappointed; for interest, vanity, or intemperance, had totally subverted a regular way of thinking and a just way of acting among mankind.

I NEXT told my elderly visitors, that I was going out of town for a week; and then leaving my house to the care of the lady who lived with me, began my travels with the guide I had pitched upon.

WE went the first evening to a very noted tavern in the City, and where I saw one or two faces that were now and then visitors to me.—Before supper was served

served in, there was nothing said which I thought worth attending to. One told us about a hurt he had got in his ankle; another, how far his horse trotted with him; and a third gave us a lecture on the national debt: all were talkers, few hearers. After the cloth was taken away, two or three toasts were drank, which I wonder men are not ashamed to propose among one another. How can they keep each other in countenance! And yet what is so common, and at the same time what is so vulgar!

I soon grew sick of this set, who while they continued sober were dull, and as they grew drunk were mad.

THE next evening I was introduced among a set of geniusses, *Jolly Dogs*, and *damn'd High Fellows*, as they called themselves;

seves ; but these Jolly Dogs I found to be the *saddest dogs* I ever before conversed with.

WE went to COMUS's COURT, as they called it, one JACK SPEED's, *White-Horse, Fetter-lane*, where these very high humourists were to assemble that evening. When we had taken our seats, and I had once or twice looked round the room, and examined the many persons who were placed on each side of two long tables, I could not observe that their eyes discovered the least symptoms of jollity : on the contrary, their faces were mere blanks, and they seemed most earnestly looking about as if they wanted something they could not describe, like Curiosity in distress ; and appeared more like mourners at Mirth's funeral,

funeral, than companions fit for fun and merriment.

I TOLD this to my conductor, who whispered to me to have a little patience; that the STARS did not appear soon that night, but that I should see them shine; or at least twinkle, by and by; that the company I now saw did not meet to make one another merry, but to be made merry by others; that these COMUS' COURT meetings were on the same plan as SADLER'S WELLS, where people might sit and smoke, and drink and hear singing, and see all the posture-masters and tumblers, yet only pay so much for liquor, and have all these comical fancies into the bargain.

ON enquiring who those STARS were that we should see by and by, he gave me their history, as follows :

" THERE

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“ THERE are a set of people about
“ this Town, who, from attending to
“ every thing but what they should do,
“ have made themselves masters of
“ some particular tones, or oddities,
“ which are by those who know no
“ better, admired as supernatural qua-
“ lifications.

“ THESE people are invited from
“ Club to Club by the landlords of
“ public-houses, to play off their fools
“ tricks to all the guests the publican
“ can jumble together. One plays
“ with a rolling-pin upon a salt-box ;
“ another grunts like a hog ; a third
“ makes his teeth chatter like a mon-
“ key ; and thus they each have some-
“ thing to make the Million laugh,
“ and put common sense out of coun-
“ tenance.

“ BUT

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“ But here, here, they come!—
“ Take notice of their figures as they
“ come in.

“ THAT fellow * was originally a
“ journeyman-shoemaker, and had the
“ name of the *Singing Cobler*; then he
“ turned strolling-player, next publi-
“ can, and is now, I believe, a publican.
“ again. He lately published a volume
“ of songs, several very obscene ones,
“ and at the top had the effrontery to
“ put his name, as if they were his
“ songs..

“ THE next is the *Grunting Genius* †,
“ and *Broomstick-Fiddler*. When he
“ sings, I beg, as you can write short-
“ hand, you will write down in your
“ pocket-book, with your pencil, the

* BOB SUMMERS. † MATT SKEGGS.

“ words.

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" words of each verse as he pronounces
" them.

" THE next is a very fine German-
" flute player*, a good honest fel-
" low, who means no harm, and is
" friendly as far as he can be so, but has
" an odd whim : he fancies himself to
" have been a great traveller, and
" imagines Madame POMPADOUR and
" he have been *tête-à-tête* together,
" and that the Grand Monarch took a
" great liking to him, and made him
" great offers, provided he would em-
" brace the Catholic religion.

" THAT fresh-coloured fellow who
" follows him is an unaccountable be-
" ing †. He has wrote some tolerably

* DICK BOWYER—we believe now living. E.

† Mr. STEVENS has here delineated his own character. EDIT.

" droll

“ droll songs, but spoils them by his at-
“ tempting to sing them. He has be-
“ longed to both Theatres, and never
“ could make himself of any conse-
“ quence in either : he has too much
“ sense for a fool, and too little to be
“ prudent. He might be either better
“ or worse than he is, if he would take
“ any pains to bring it about. **GEORGE**,
“ however, is either unable or unwill-
“ ing to think as he should do, but lets
“ things come or go, just as it may
“ happen ; too careless to consider of
“ any moment but the present, and,
“ grasshopper-like, merry one half the
“ year, the other half miserable.”

OBSERVING to my companion, that
none of these STARS paid as they came
in, he told me that the landlord always
franked

franked them for the tricks they played to divert his customers.

Now “silence! silence!” was bawled out by almost every person in the room, and every body stood up upon the President’s rising, who had been a very wealthy tradesman formerly, but had ruined himself by attending upon such meetings as these, merely to get the name of
A CLEVER FELLOW.

AFTER most deliberately hitting three strokes upon the table with his hammer, he began with telling the company, “that he had a toast or two to propose, after which Mr. GRUNTER should either give them the organ, the broomstick, a French-horn tune, or a song first; but that if he might take the liberty of speaking

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“ speaking before a set of such gentlemen of merit as he saw there, he presumed, that if Mr. GRUNTER opened with a song, it would be most agreeable.”

THIS speechifying was applauded most vehemently, and “ A song, a song, a song, from *My Lord!* a song from *My Lord!*” called out for.

THE President once more took upon him to inform the company, that a gentleman near him had requested Mr. GRUNTER to sing a song called,

“ When Phœbus the tops of the hills does adorn.”

THIS notice was applauded, and several repeated bursts of “ Bravo! bravo!” were heard from different parts

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parts of the room, one after the other, occasioning irregular explosions, like the Train-bands firing.

My friend whispered me to get my pencil and pocket-book ready for *My Lord's* song, who, after the toast had been drank, began and went through the Song as follows, *verbatim*.

WHEN Phœbe the tops of the hills do adorn,
How sweet is the sound of the echoing morn ;
When the mantling stag is arous'd by our sound,
Neglecting his ears nimbly sweeps all the ground ;
And thinks he has left us behind on the plain,
But still we pursue, now and then come in view
Of the glorious game.

Oh ! see now again, how his ears and his head,
And winged, for fear he is troubled with speed.
But ah, 'tis in vain, 'tis in vain, that he tries,
That his legs lose the huntsmen, his ears lose
their eyes,

For

JOURNEY THROUGH LONDON. 25

For now his strength fails him, he heavily flies,
And he pants,
Till with well center hounds surrounded he dies.

THE rattling of glasses, the knocking of sticks, the thumpings on the table, and the hideous screams of “Bravo! “ bravissimo!” which followed the conclusion of this *elegant* and *scientific* Solo by Mr. GRUNTER, exceeded every species of riotous noise and vulgar vociferation I had ever heard of, or been present at before.

As soon as the Song of the “Tops of “ the Hills” was over, *My Lord*, who had sung it, desired the President would “ax the Gemmun who sot next him “ to sing.”

THIS was the person who my friend told me had made some droll Songs,

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but spoiled them in singing, and now began as follows, to the tune of,

“ Once I was great, but now little am grown.”

I.

I'LL sing, Sirs, a Song, as a body may say,

But what sort of a subject is best, Sir?

About Politics, Drinking, Intriguing and Play,

Or making Religion a jest, Sir.

These themes are worn threadbare, they're tedious, they're old,

As Songs they've been sung, and as Stories been told ;

Then we'll droll on those who on those things have droll'd,

And mimic a Choice Spirits meeting.

II.

Imprimis,—but hold, ere their pictures are shown,

We'll suppose that we see them assembling ;

The hammer held up, and silence knock'd down,

At the door stands poor Decency trembling.

In the room, ancient Uproar enjoys—

A NOISE

A NOISE at that instant bursting out from one corner of the room, interrupted the singer. All the company immediately got upon the benches and tables, when, topsy-turvy, down tumbled two fellows upon the floor, where each began kicking and scratching one another. They were soon parted, however, much to the disappointment of the major part of the company.

WHEN the occasion of this quarrel came to be enquired into, it was found to be a point of honour; for Mr. LONGSTAFF, a Nightman, had called one of the singing Geniuses, and a member of COMUS'S COURT, a stinking fellow, and swore he had pick'd his pocket of a silk handkerchief as he sat next to him. As no man of spirit could bear this without vindicating his honour, the Poet immediately gave the

Nightman the lie, which the Nightman as quickly returned him again : then the words Rogue, Thief, and other such terms, that always enter in course when such gentlemen quarrel, were made use of until the battle began, as before related. At last, by the interposition of friends, and their own fatigue, they were parted ; and then, like any other brace of belligerents, they became friends, shook hands, and sat down to drink together.

WERE I to imitate the Modern Life-writers, I should here insert some very serious reflections about War and Peace, and the Balance of Power, and all the rest of those hacknied common-place topics ;—but women are not expected to be politicians. LEAR very well depicts the present race of Government-meddlers when he says, “ Get thee glass eyes,
“ and,

“ and, like a scurvy politician, seem to
“ see the things you do not.”

MEN are too apt to meddle most with what they understand least. Two glaring instances of conceit I must beg leave to mention.

ONE is that of a famous Rhetorician, or Elocution-master, who spoke an oration before the famous Hannibal.

THIS pedant entertained the renowned warrior with a lecture upon the duties of a general, and how to draw an army up in a field of battle. After it was ended, the magistrates, who had invited the Carthaginian hero to hear this botcher of sentences, enquired of Hannibal how he liked their great preacher, and whether he was not a

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prodigious scholar?—“ He may be
“ what you call a scholar, (replied the
“ chief) but I am sure he is a block-
“ head; and I don’t know of which to
“ express my contempt most, the folly
“ of his chusing such a subject, or
“ the absurdity with which he spoke
“ upon it.”

THE second instance relates to the famous Henry the IVth of France, who one day having had a manuscript presented to him by his taylor, (which was an Essay upon a Method for obtaining Universal Monarchy, and written by the person who offered it to his Majesty) the King, as soon as he had cast his eyes over the title-page, turned about to the famous Harlay, his First President, saying, “ Harlay, you shall make my cloaths for the future; for see, my
“ taylor

" taylor has turned politician, and
" taken your trade away."

BUT to return to JACK SPEED's.

As soon as tranquility had again taken possession of the room, uprose the President, with all that importance, that title-page of dignity, so necessary to display the consequence of character; and after thrice hitting hard his hammer upon the table, and thrice calling out " silence!" with as much solemnity as ever gownsman said " No" to a Bishoprick, he drank aloud a particular toast, for which he was very loudly applauded.

PROSTITUTE as I was, I blushed for him, and looked with astonishment on the company, as I heard them echo this

obscene monosyllable to each other. I wondered what satisfaction they could find in the utterance : they all seemed, by their conversation, to be Herculean champions in its cause :—but what Leonora says on another occasion, I could very justly apply to them on this :

“ Lion-talkers, lamb-like fighters.”

THE person who was interrupted in his Song, was next desired to *do the Puppet-show* ; upon which, after some little preparation or preface, he began thus :

“ THE first figure, Gemmen and La-
“ dies, I represent you with, is St.
“ George and the Dragon : Observe
“ and take notice of the richness of his
“ dress, the lance in his hand, the roll-
“ ing of the Dragon’s eyes, and the
“ sting

“ sting in his tail. This figure, Gem-
“ men, is the wonder of the world : it
“ has been shewn before the *Riol Siety*,
“ and those learned scholars cou’d not
“ tell what to make of it ; for some said
“ it was a sea-monster, and some said
“ it was a land-monster, and some said
“ it was no monster, only a monstrosity ;
“ and some said it was a griffin, and
“ some said it had ne’er a fin ; and so,
“ at last, they all agreed, that it was
“ neither one thing nor another.

“ THE next figure I shall shew ye,
“ is Adam and Eve a going to be
“ created.—Why don’t you bring
“ them out?”

[*Here he changed his tone of voice, as if answered by a companion.*

“ THEY a’n’t ready yet, but here’s
“ the Two Babes of the Wood ; shew

“ them ; any thing will do now-a-
“ days.”

“ THE next figure you are repre-
“ sented with, Gemmen and Ladies,
“ is the Deluge, all alive, alive,
“ as naturally as ever the Deluge
“ was performed and representified.—
“ Why don’t you play away the
“ Deluge ?

[*Changing his voice again.*

“ I DON’T know how to play away
“ the Deluge ?”

“ WHY, you must pifs against the
“ casement, and imitate a shower of
“ rain, you dog—it will do, mun.

“ THE next is a piece of Italian
“ Clockwork, representing all the
“ beasts.

“ beasts of the field going into Noah’s
 “ Ark.—Bring it out.

[*Here he altered his voice again.*

“ It a’n’t here, but here’s a prospec-
 “ tive view of the Mansion-house, upon
 “ my Lord Mayor’s-day ; that will do
 “ as well, mun.”

“ Now we will show you, Gemmen,
 “ the Devil, the Pope, and the Pre-
 “ tender.—Bring them out.”

[*Changing his voice.*

“ THE devil a one of um are here,
 “ tho’. Didn’t you dress up the Devil
 “ but last night for a Stockjobber ?
 “ and didn’t the Woolcombers get the
 “ Pope from you for a Bishop Blaze ?
 “ and didn’t you sell the Pretender for
 “ the sign of a Highlander to a Snuff-

“ shop ?—So speak the Epilogue, and
“ let’s make an end of it.”

E P I L O G U E.

“ Now, gentlefolks and neighbours, great and
“ small,
“ I hope our kind performance has pleas’d you,
“ one and all ;
“ And therefore, since as how it is the vogue,
“ So shall I speak by way of Epilogue.
“ As the song says, Blind folks can’t see a fly,
“ As Tower-ditch in summer-time is dry ;
“ But when as how, whereby from common sewers,
“ The kennel-tide, like Tragic-actor, roars ;
“ All sorts of filth into the Ditch comes tumbling,
“ So all sorts of folks into our house come rum-
“ bling ;
“ Our Playhouse then is fill’d with Gentlemen
“ And Ladies—presently we shall begin agen.”

THIS

THIS no wit, and as barren of humour repetition, was applauded most vociferously, as well as *bravoed* and *encored*; which made me reflect on the depravity of mankind's taste, that can be pleased with such vulgar absurdities, and delight to sacrifice so many hours in abuse to their understandings.

AFTER this the President with equal gravity and complacency addressing the facetious NED SHUTER, requested him to oblige the company with the Epilogue he had spoken a few nights before, at Covent-garden, for Mr. STEVENS's benefit; a request which *honest Ned* immediately complied with; and which was as follows:

COMIC PARAPHRASE upon SHAKESPEARE'S SEVEN AGES *; spoken by Mr. SHUTER at his Benefit in Covent-garden, March 21, 1763.

Written by G. A. STEVENS.

All the World's a Stage.

THUS Shakespeare has said, and what more can we say?

But that life is a Droll, 'twixt a farce and a play,
Where some live extempore, others by rule,
Some fly ones act knaves parts, and some play
the fool.—

The fool! and what then?—By he wise 'tis confess'd,
That man lives the happiest, who plays the fool best.
Folly waits on our wishes, our senses she charms
From———

The

* *Jaq. All the world's a stage,*
And all the men and women merely Players;
They have their Exits and their entrances,
And one man in his time plays many parts :

His

JOURNEY THROUGH LONDON. 39

The infant mewling and puking in the nurse's arms.

While round her neck the tender bantling clings,
She dandles the baby, and baby-like sings.

[*Holding up the flap of his coat, he sung to
the tune of, O my Kitten.*

“ Here is papa’s nown features, and here is a
“ Jack a-dandy,

“ Give us a blow to beat ’um, and who’ll have
“ some sugar-candy.

“ He’ll be a man ’fore his mother, and shoo pig,
“ shoo, shoo, shoo,

“ Hot diddle-dumplins hot, and cock-a-doo-
dle-do, &c. &c.”

’Till tir’d she clasps the infant to her breast,
Offers the nipple; and the child’s at rest.

Thus women and men, who are children grown tall,
When baulk’d of their wishes, will squabble and
squall;

But when passion’s indulg’d in its favourite diet,
Just like the pleas’d baby, they sleep and are quiet.

Then

His acts being seven ages. At first the infant,
Mewling and puking in the nurse’s arms:

And

Then comes the whining School-boy, &c.

Suppose me a school-boy, with lank dangling hair,
 My fingers frost-nipt, and my face full of fear.
 At my elbow the Usher, my lesson I'm conning,
 And *borum* and *barum* I'm thro' the nosedroning.

[Speaks like a school-boy.]

Amo, amas, amavi,
When I play'd truant, I cry'd Peccavi.

Ye mighty men of classic lore,
 Who ken this age, and that before.
 Who are in Latin call'd *Doctoribus*,
 And always speak *Propria quæ Maribus*,
 And write 'bout Heathen Mars and Venus,
 And Homer, Horace, and *Quæ Genus*,
 And thunder out *Tondapameibqminos*,
 Those very sounds to me were ominous.
 So I left them, because I'd not be like the lad,
 Who must be a scholar, to please Ma or Dad.

When

And then, the whining school-boy, with his satchel,
 And shining morning face, creeping like snail,

Unwillingly

JOURNEY THROUGH LONDON. 41

When with Latin and Greek many years the boy's
mused,

He's put to some calling, where neither is used.

*The next is the Lover, sighing like furnace with a
woeful ballad, &c.*

Very woeful indeed, for love's full of woe,
And sighs are the symphonies *Ab! Ab!* and
Oh! Oh!

I shall try at a love-song myself very soon,
If you, Mr. Musicians, will keep me in tune.

[To the Orchestra.

Suppose me just enter'd, my low bow I've made,
And I strut cross the stage, while the tweedle-dee's
play'd.

*Sings to the Tune of, " If o'er the Cruel Tyrant
" Love, &c." Artaxerxes.*

" Before the cruel master kneels
" The boy, his fault to own ;
" And begs at ev'ry stroke he feels,
" O let me, let me down !
" O dear,

Unwillingly to school. And then, the lover ;
Sighing like furnace, with a woeful ballad

Made

42 JOURNEY THROUGH LONDON.

" O dear ! O la ! loud roars the lout,
" In penance as he smarts :
" Thus Love is like a whipping-boast,
" And Cupid flogs our hearts."

Then a Soldier, &c. &c.

But now the work of war is o'er,
And sanguin'd Slaughter thirsts no more ;
Our Nation's happy, blefs'd, and quiet,
Except a little playhouse riot.
For oft indeed like man and wife,
Audience and actors are at strife ;
But errors own'd, the quarrel ends,
A pardon's ask'd, and all are friends.
Now smiling Peace, in unstain'd robe,
Her olive waves around the globe.
England's sons, who bold have stood
Victors on the land and flood ;

No

Made to his mistress' eye-brow. Then, a soldier ;
Full of strange oaths, and bearded like the pard,
Jealous in honour, sudden and quick in quarrel ;
Seeking the bubble reputation

Even

JOURNEY THROUGH LONDON.

43

No more through savage climates roam,
But bear their honour's harvest-home.

GLORY from his triumphal car,
Unlades the trophies of the war;
Hangs up his shield, and sheaths his sword,
For gown and slippers gives the word;
And seated in his elbow chair,
Laughs at each tumult here or there.

*Then comes the Justice, with fair round belly, with
good capon lined, &c.*

Had Shakespeare known what 'twas to eat in taste,
He wou'd have furnish'd out a finer feast;
Not cramm'd the Justice with coarse barn-door
food,
But lin'd his belly with hog barbecue'd;
Then toss'd him up in taste a turtle hash,
With high-sauc'd calipee, and strong-sows'd ca-
lipash;

And

Even in the cannon's mouth. And then, the Justice
In fair round belly, with good capon lin'd,

With

44 JOURNEY THROUGH LONDON.

And made his Worship call out loud—“ Here,
 Sirrah,
 “ Hand me a spoonful of the spinal marrow.—
 “ A tumbler fill, a brusher! I can bear it.
 “ Your honour’s health, my Lord ;—’tis neat
 “ good claret :”
 Stroking his belly down then thus decree ;
 “ The calipash is fine, and so’s the calipee.
 “ Come, t’other plate, I’ve only foul’d a couple.
 “ Two slices save me, Sir, of that pine-apple.
 “ But, friend, don’t take the haunch off, d’ye
 “ hear-a ?
 “ Hob nob, Sir? Done. Two bumpers of Ma-
 “ deira !”

Thus would he introduce him on the stage,
 Had Shakespeare liv’d in this taste-eating age,

SENSE now descends from brain to belly,
 And REASON’s stew’d down to a jelly ;
 GOOD-BREEDING rather over-done,
 RELIGION raw and let alone ;

JUDG-

With eyes severe, and beard of formal cut,
 Full of wise saws and modern instances,

And

JOURNEY THROUGH LONDON. 45

JUDGMENT is seldom done enough,
And LEARNING but an apple-puff.

E'en WIT is only bottle small,
Which, on uncorking, frothy flies ;
But soon its acid spirits pall,
It sinks, grows flat, then sours and dies.

All things but Taste must needs be flat ;
And as to Taste, why pray what's that ?
We've artists of each kingdom's growth,
To teach us Taste ; but faith and troth
So many cooks oft spoil the broth.

{

Again the Justice let us find
“ With belly fair by capon lin'd,
“ And eyes severe : ” and so faith let him :
’Tis time I think for us to quit him :
Leave him to talk of writs of errors,
Bails, fines, commitments and demurrers,
Rapes, riots, constables, and keepings,
Fees, warrants, round-houses and whippings,
Con-

And so he plays his part. The sixth age shifts

46 JOURNEY THROUGH LONDON.

Contempts of court, and binding over,
Actions of trespass and of trover.

Thus let him prate, with him we've done ;
And to the next age pass we slowly on.

“ With spectacles on nose, and pouch by's fide,
“ His youthful hose well sav'd, a world too wide
“ For his shrunk shank, and his big manly voice,
“ Turning again to childish treble, pipes
“ And whistles in his sound.”

“ Here, nurse, my flannel cap—how—who's
“ that, ha?

NURSE. “ Only the newsman, Sir.”—“ W—hat's
“ that you say ?

NURSE. “ The King of Prusa, Sir, has got the
“ day.”

“ Got

Into the lean and flipper'd pantaloons,
With spectacles on nose, and pouch on fide ;
His youthful hose well sav'd, a world too wide
For his shrunk shank; and his big manly voice,
Turning again toward childish treble, pipes

And

JOURNEY THROUGH LONDON. 47

“ Got to pay ?—Ay, let him come in ; 'tis
“ true ;
“ I thought to-day I had some interest due.”

Just on the instant a full-wig'd Physician,
Whom Nurse had told her master's sick condition,
Approach'd the elbow-chair where FEEBLE sat,
Who por'd thro' spectacles, and cry'd—“ Who's
“ that ?”

When Don Diplomist with cane-smelling }
grace

Grave putting on *secundum artem* face, }
Stops Nurse's answer, and demands his case.
Saying—“ How do ye find yourself, Sir, sound ?”

FEEBLE. “ What, bind myself ?—No, Sir, I'll
“ not be bound ;

“ But on good trust I'll lend ten thousand pound.
“ Here, Nurse”—

Now whitling in his speech, with voice out-worn,
By Nurse he's lifted like a babe just born.
“ Nurse, nurse”—

Then

And whistles in his sound. Last scene of all,

And

Then comes the sight that ever must appal ;
 He sinks, sinks, sinks, to the last scene of all ;
 Where stands Oblivion with her outspread veil,
 To end this strange, this sad eventful tale.
 Taste, touching, hearing, seeing, speaking, gone ;
 Death drops the curtain down—the droll is done.

ONCE more uprose the President, and rolling his eyes around the room, beckoned to a pot-bellied figure, desiring him to step forwards, and tell the Dutch story.

IMMEDIATELY advanced a dirty-faced, and very slovenly-dressed being, whose head of hair, for want of frizeuring, appeared like a Friesland hen in full feather, with nostrils wide as the extinguisher's diameter, their inside encrust-ed

That ends this strange eventful history,
 Is second childishness, and mere oblivion,
 Sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste, sans every thing .

SHAKESPEARE.

ed with snuff, like a Scotchman's mull ; but just as he prepared to begin, *My Lord*, as they called him, sounded out *pinquivy*, and began to grunt to it. This irritated the Dutch Story-teller to that degree, that flinging a piece of broomstick which he had in his hand at the Grunter, it hit the aquiline lump in *My Lord's* nose, taking it in profile, and from thence flanked off to the blind side of old *Pinkey** the salt-box player, who starting up, alarmed at the oddness of the salutation, bawled out, “ Dam—“ me, who did that ? What angle of
“ direction did this broken lever ja-
“ culate from, ha ?—What predica-
“ ment of matter are you all in ?—
“ How came this cylinder to fly off in

* PINCHBECK, a travelling Showman, and brother of the well-known Pinchbeck, or PINCHY, the Toyman, who lived near Charing-Cross.

" a tangent to me? I know what the
velocity of accelerated motion is, and
I'll shew you it experimentally :" then catching up a lighted candle, he flung it across the room, where it fixed itself in Mr. Deputy's full-bottomed bob behind : the curls singeing and smoaking, the tallow-grease dropping adown his Pompadour coat, he started up, and ran towards the aggressor, demanding satisfaction.—The company began immediately to divide with much tumult ; the Geniuses around the Salt-box Musician, and the neighbours took the part of their Brother-Tradesman. In the midst of this confusion, while twenty people were talking at once, and incessant gabble seemed to possess all the company ; tired of what they called *fun*, I desired my friend to shew me the way out, and we stole off in the midst of the most

JOURNEY THROUGH LONDON. 51

most horrid jargon and disorder that I ever was witness to; till the evening's scene was again brought to my view, on reading the next day Milton's description of chaos; where he says,

— eldest Night,
And Chaos, ancestors of nature, hold
Eternal anarchy, amidst the noise
Of endless wars, and by confusion stand.

— Chaos umpire fits,
And by decision more embroils the fray.

And Discord with a thousand various mouths,

As we had wasted the evening among this rabble rout, we resolved that the morning's entertainment should correspond with it, and in consequence went from thence to BOB DERRY's. There, in-

stead of being entertained, as we expected, with Oddities, we found it to be only a scene of confusion, drunkenness and stupidity ; not one thing worthy remark, except the misery of those poor creatures of my own sex, who sat there like so many dressed-out carcases in the shambles, ready for hungry appetites to cheapen.—I pitied them.—I was shocked to look at them, as I could perceive, in spite of all the artifice of red cheeks, and Indian-ink'd eye-brows, that pinching want and pale disease preyed upon them in secret. In their dim eyes too plainly we could read the distress of their hearts ; yet they were *keeping it up*, as they called it ; singing, though they wanted spirits ; fondling every fellow, though they loathed the man they embraced ; swallowing the worst sort of liquors, without the least inclination ; and

JOURNEY THROUGH LONDON. 53

and making their persons swill-tubs, for the sake of helping the house, lest they might not have the liberty of fitting there again the next night.

WERE I to begin the world again, and be upon the Town as I have been, I would enter into an association with the rest of the Women of Pleasure, and we would hire a Coffee-house, as the Stock-jobbers have done at JONATHAN's ; for Strumpets and Stockjobbers are pretty similar in their profession : a Woman of the Town, however, is the most eligible, and most honest occupation ; because we only trade upon our own stock, while they are for getting hold of other persons property.

I WOULD have this room under the same restrictions as JONATHAN's is. The

subscribers should have the liberty of going in and out without being obliged to drink ; and every person who wanted to trade, should be obliged either to make use of a Pimp or a Bawd, because we would have no transaction but what should be for the good of the general community, just like JONATHAN'S.

I AM not, though a Prostitute, so lost to humanity as not to pity distress ; I therefore could not help feeling for these poor women, although I was not a jot better than them except in circumstances.

THEY were dressed in all that flimsy flaunting parade, in which we have seen the strolling Actresses at Bartholomew-fair habited, who are to play gentlewomen.

I WAS

I WAS ashamed of some part of their behaviour, which I thought they might have avoided; and I could not help observing to my companion, that it was miserable enough for any woman to be obliged to be a common whore, but that she had no occasion to make her situation more contemptible by her actions.

As we came out for a frolic, I did not chuse to stay in a place which only made me melancholy; and from what I could see at this BOB DERRY's, I should as soon seek for fun in the Foul Ward of an Hospital, as ever again go there in hopes to meet with diversion.

FROM this infamous rendezvous we descended into a NIGHT-CELLAR, where we met with several real Characters.

IN the first box, at the end of which we sat down, were an Irish Chairman, a superannuated Strolling Player, a Lamp-lighter, and a disbanded Marine, disputing about Regeneration, Transubstantiation, the Liberty of Conscience, and the Liberty of the Press.

A WHORE's Maid and a Bailiff's Follower stood close to us, delivering their opinions concerning Prerogative and Taxes; and in the box opposite to that in which we sat, were a Watchman and an old Blind Woman, troubled with the palsy, drinking hot-pot together.

A FLEET Parson we heard harangue here very finely on the benefit of the Habeas Corpus Act; till he was interrupted by a young fellow in a laced coat, who repeated that hackneyed line,
“ Priests of all religions are the same.”

This

This brought on a very learned dispute between the young fellow and an ill-looking man, who we found was Helper to Jack Ketch.

THE best-dressed disputant endeavoured to prove that the Romish Religion in this kingdom would be the ruin of English Liberty. The Foreman to the Finisher of the Law denied Religion to have any thing to do with Liberty and Property; but said the way for us to get the Balance of Power into our own hands was, to hang all the French fellows in London.

To this the young Gentleman (for as he wore laced cloaths and a sword, he must certainly be a Gentleman) was going to reply, but was prevented by being

taken up at that instant by a warrant issued against him for forgery. — It is surprising what an effect the appearance of the Constable and the Thief-takers had on the guests in the Night-cellar; there was not one left after the culprit was carried off, except my companion and myself, and one odd-looking mortal fast asleep in the corner of our box, who had been hid while the place was thronged with company. He snored so loud, that we thought it disagreeable, or at least we made the landlord believe so, that he might wake the sleeper, as we wanted to have a little conversation with him; for there was something in his habit which promised the wearer to be a **GENUS**. His shirt was very dirty and very ragged, with deep ruffles; his hat had been laced, the marks were still strong in it; he had
a bag-

a bag-wig, and a gold button-holed coat, both of which were very much the worse for wear.

ON our complaining that his snoring disturbed us, the landlord, to whom we had been pretty liberal, with all that parish-beadle tyranny which the slave in office uses to the poor he is passing, seized the sleeper violently by the arm, and shaking him very rudely, bid him get up, and not sleep there to disturb gentlemen, and turn out immediately.

THE poor fellow started up, rubbed his eyes, and looking at us, desired to know what was the matter—what was o'clock—and what was become of his broth? The landlord was for turning him out, but we desired him to desist,

and to let him remain. Still the poor fellow was in a maze, and wanted to know what he had done, that he should be turned out from a house which he had used for above six years every night or morning, at one hour or another. The owner of the Night-cellar then told him he had disturbed us, and that we were the two best customers he had had this twelvemonth.

UPON this he addressed himself to us with, “ Upon my honour, Gentlemen, “ I humbly ask pardon, if I have any “ way incommoded your conversation : “ I would much rather have shared in “ it, I assure you.—Pray, Gentlemen, “ have either of you any snuff?—The “ best rappee, upon honour, I have “ had the happiness of tasting ever “ since I dined at my Lord Singleton’s.

“ —But,

JOURNEY THROUGH LONDON. 61

" —But, Gentlemen, no offence, I
" hope—Pray—a—what was your last
" subject in debate, that by my invi-
" luntary nose-breathing I was unhappy
" enough to interrupt? I am pretty
" well vers'd in most subjects. I very
" often speak at the Robin Hood, and
" at the Queen's Arms in Newgate-
" street: I also write a great deal about
" Arts and Sciences, and Pickled Her-
" rings, and Players, and Magna Charta,
" and Religion, and Novels, and Lives of
" celebrated Ladies and Gentlemen, and
" Fashions, and French Dancers, and
" other as interesting and national con-
" cerns. Pray—Gentlemen—you'll ex-
" cuse me—but you don't seem to mind
" your basons of pease-soup. If they
" stand till the broth is cold, it is not
" worth drinking, it grows so flat:
" there are not two people in all London
" who

62 JOURNEY THROUGH LONDON.

“ who make such good pease-soup as the
“ people who tenant this mansion.”

“ COME, don’t let us have none of
“ your palavering, you raggamunduff
“ rascal you!—(*this was the landlady’s*
“ *voice*)—We make it good! Yes, too
“ good for you, faith, ye scrub ye.
“ Why now, Gentlemen, that there
“ fellow there my husband and I
“ have trusted this half-year; yes, you
“ know we have, firrah;—because,
“ truly, he promised to write in praise
“ of our Cellar in some of the Papers,
“ because we wanted to have our pease-
“ soup known among the gentry; and
“ we knows there’s nothing like having
“ a friend to speak for one; and the
“ News-papers are the best friends in
“ the world to speak for people, they
“ tell you every thing. We should no
“ more

“ more know when a Charity-Sermon
“ was to be preached, nor we should
“ what Play was to be acted, if it
“ waan’t for the News-papers. And
“ there’s many a great doctor of physic
“ would walk afoot, if it waan’t for
“ the News-papers. And I am sure
“ our pease-soup is as good as any doc-
“ tor’s stuff, and better too, ay, and
“ more wholesomer, and it has cured
“ more diseases: and our leg-of-beef
“ broth is better nor all the *Lixurs of*
“ *Wipers*. And we have got a good
“ many affidavits of the cures our pease-
“ soup and leg-of-beef has performed.
“ And our pease-soup can cure the gra-
“ vel, and deafness, and the ague and
“ fever, and take away warts; and it’s
“ good for lying-in women and morti-
“ fications: and so is our leg-of-beef
“ good for the scurvy, and consump-
“ tion,

64 JOURNEY THROUGH LODNON.

“tion, and dropsy, and yellow jaun-
“dice. And he promised to write a
“whole pamphlet about the virtues of
“our pease-soup and leg-of-beef; and
“he put us to the charge of having
“our names cut in a cypher, to stamp
“all the porringers, when we sent
“them out to noblemen’s and gentries
“houses, for fear of counterfeits: and
“he swore, so he did, he would christen
“our pease-soup with some outlandish
“name, and then it would sound
“strange, so all the world would buy
“it: and he was to call our leg-of-
“beef *A Nessence*; and he was to re-
“commend —”

“RECOMMEND your fool’s head! (in-
“terrupted the husband.)—Don’t you
“see the gentlemen are tired to hear
“your bothering them? So let them
“alone,

JOURNEY THROUGH LONDON. 65

“ alone, and if they like Mr. FLY-
“ BLOWN’s company, let them have it.”

WE now addressed our new acquaintance, begging the favour of him to eat a dish with us.—He replied, smiling, “ Gentlemen, I have lived “ too long in polite life, not to know “ it is a piece of ill-breeding to refuse “ obstinately what is offered graciously : I accept it with pleasure.— “ I must further intrude upon your generosity for another pinch of rappee, “ Sir, and then—Here landlord, let me “ have a dish of leg of-beef : take me “ up as many of the finews as you can, “ and let me have a slice of bread— “ I always make fippets, Gentlemen.— “ It is true, I put you to an additional “ charge, but it is merely that you “ may taste how well it relishes this
“ way,

66. JOURNEY THROUGH LONDON.

“ way, or else I should scorn to impose
“ upon any man ; believe me, Gentle-
“ men, I am a man of honour, and a
“ Gentleman.—I come down here in-
“ deed very often, just to soil after
“ drinking Burgundy and Champagne ;
“ and I did promise to write them a dis-
“ fertation upon the good qualities of
“ pease-soup. For you must know,
“ Gentlemen, that I understand phy-
“ sic, chymistry, botany, indeed I un-
“ derstand every thing.—I am univer-
“ sal in my knowledge ; and I am con-
“ scious of the mucilaginous quality of
“ these potations, which are here pre-
“ pared genuine ; therefore here I al-
“ ways come after a debauch at the
“ Shakespeare, or Bedford Arms, or
“ Almack’s ; because these nervous
“ decoctions, by their balsamic spirit,
“ arm the interior part of the intestines
“ against

“ against the acidity of French wines :
“ they defend the integuments from
“ being corroded by any rectified spi-
“ rits, shield the tunics of the stomach,
“ and hinder claret from tartarising in
“ the capillary tubes, or valves of the
“ secretory vessels.”

THE dish of pease-soup being now set before him, he was silenced at the sight, and began to employ his mouth to a more pertinent purpose than uttering physical phrases.

I THEN took the liberty to enquire into his profession, when he told me he was an AUTHOR ; and on asking him, whether his writings were political, dramatical, or historical, his reply was as follows: “ I write every way, Gentle-
“ men.

“ men. As to history, I am concerned
“ in the *History of the Bible*; but the
“ age is too wicked; religion is a drug
“ among the people. I have wrote
“ both for the Stage and the State, but
“ I have not made much of it yet. I
“ have many enemies, Gentlemen, in
“ the Theatres; enemies who are so
“ out of envy: they are continually
“ prejudicing the Managers against
“ me, so that I cannot get even a Farce
“ of one act put in rehearsal at either
“ House. And as to Politics, I have
“ written on both sides for upwards of
“ three years, and yet neither side has
“ had gratitude enough to take notice
“ of me for it. However, I intend to
“ run a little risque next winter. If
“ they do put me in the pillory, or in
“ prison for some time, why what
“ then? If they allow me a pension
“ after-

JOURNEY THROUGH LONDON. 69

“ afterwards, of the value of a couple
“ of hundreds a year, or so, why it
“ will neither hurt my reputation nor
“ my genius, as I know of.”

I COULD not forbear interrupting him,
to ask if he was married.

HE replied in the affirmative, and
thus continued: “ I bless God, Gen-
“ tlemen, that I am so: I have one of
“ the finest women to my wife that ever
“ the elegance of Nature’s pencil out-
“ lined, or the blooming hand of
“ Health coloured; and she is as good
“ as she is lovely. I love her to dis-
“ traction, and always did. We don’t
“ indeed at present live together, she
“ happening now to be with her pa-
“ rents; for, Sir, I have had foes, foes
“ who told her sad stories of me. I
“ never

70 JOURNEY THROUGH LONDON.

“ never was any more than indiscreet ;
“ I only did as the rest of the world
“ did ; I loved to *keep it up*. I be-
“ lieve I fretted her a little by my stay-
“ ing out so late ; but I did not design
“ to fret her, Gentlemen, indeed. She
“ caught me once or twice in bed with
“ a Woman of the Town, but I did not
“ wrong her bed designedly, with any
“ intention ; for I was drunk when I
“ did it, and didn’t know what I did,
“ so ’twas no fault of mine. I us’d to
“ play a little now and then : that, in-
“ deed, I was to blame for. I scorn
“ to excuse myself ; no man is perfect :
“ —however, I’ve seen my errors—my
“ mind is open’d.—Temperance and
“ esteem for me !—I’m a new man—my
“ conduct is, and shall be irreproach-
“ able for the time to come. I despise
“ the debauch of life ! All the world
“ could

JOURNEY THROUGH LONDON. 71

“ could not tempt me to return to my
“ former indiscretions, nor hurt my wife
“ in either her circumstances, constitu-
“ tion, or temper, over again, if we
“ should once more come together ;
“ and that I live in hopes of every day ;
“ and the pleasure of that hope makes
“ all other women so indifferent to me,
“ that—”

THE arrival of a fresh customer stopped him.—One of those unhappy women (I was once in their list) who stroll up and down the Strand, or ply at corners of allies, at any drunkard's service who chuses to purchase dear-bought repentance, came down the stairs singing, and advanced to the bar b——g herself but that she had had a fine chance that night, so she would come and keep it up a little ; and ordered a quartern with

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with another oath ; then looking round, spy'd our new acquaintance, to whom she called by name, and bid him come and drink with her, for she had got a guinea that night, and b—st her if he and she wou'dn't see it out by to-morrow night.

FLYBLOWN made an apology to us for quitting our company—went to the lady—and at the bar they drank four half-quarterns ; and then lovingly, arm in arm, staggered forth to go to bed together.

*Thus is the Repentance and Resolution
of the Hero, the Philosopher, MAN, MAN,
MAN, always to be depended upon.*

SELF-FANCIED Lords of the Creation,
I know ye !

THUS —

THUS—though not like the two Kings of Brentford snelling at one nosegay, but like two senseless Votaries of Intoxication, exhaling forth to each other all the more than *Arabian* perfumes inseparable from repeated quaffs of *true British Geneva*—thus, *in or out* of character, *exeunt FLYBLOWN and his generous Doxy.*

WHO is it among our Wits and Moralists—for, now-a-days, all our *Wits* are *Moralists*—that takes it upon him to say, “*Man* differs more from *man* than *brute* from *brute*? ” Yes, now I recollect, Harry Fielding claims the honour of having made the remark; but more honourable still would it have been to him, if, avoiding so *brutish* an expression, he had said,—No Beings differ more from *all beings beside* than, in the

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various scenes and situations of life, MAN
DIFFERS FROM HIMSELF.

" 'Tis from low scenes high characters we draw ;" and certainly even from the slight traits of his character here exhibited, high indeed might the character of FLYBLOWN have been in the estimation of the world, but for that eccentricity of conduct which we so often find to be the *inseparable companion*, but, alas ! the *inseparable curse* also of superior genius !

WITH all his talents, natural and acquired—talents, which, if not suffered to " *run riot*," might have proved honourable to society, and *beneficial* as well as honourable to HIMSELF—here—to the disgrace of that literature which by his mental powers he was formed to illustrate

illustrate and adorn—*here*, even in the recesses of a NIGHT-CELLAR, have we seen him in the most degrading situations of *impoverished DISSIPATION*, revelling in the *bunger-inspired* meanness of a TREAT ; and, after that treat, preparing to wallow in the foul arms of *inebriated PROSTITUTION*.

BUT no longer let me moralise !— Morality, like *religion*, according to FLYBLOWN's own account of his “History of the Bible,” is become a “drug among the people.”— Yet may it not, after all, be asked, Who has a better title to moralise than *myself*, who in every scene, and almost in every incident, of my own chequered life, have furnished a fund for moral reflection to others ?

BE this as it may, thus, as already described, FLYBLOWN left us; but, thanks to the operation of his repeated libations at the Bar! he left us not without leaving behind him a token by which I at least might remember him; and by which, however incapable of profiting by it himself—the World—the WORLD, I would be understood, of LONDON, may profit, and profit with *pleasurable ease*.

To drop the metaphor, FLYBLOWN, in reeling from the bar homeward with his *cara sposa* of the night!—by this time it was almost *broad day*—dropped what proved to be of far more consequence than the dropping of ten hundred metaphors—a bundle of written papers, all, as they proved to be, of his own composition.

HARDLY

HARDLY was he gone, when, close at my feet, the budget of unknown matter attracted my eyes, while, as a WOMAN, it powerfully excited my curiosity. From *mine Hostess*—*mine elegant Hostess*—I readily obtained permission to carry the packet home with me, though not without leaving with her a card to Mr. FLYBLOWN, intimating to him my possession of the papers, thus in his imagination, I concluded, irreparably lost, and announcing where, on favouring me with a visit, they would be restored.

VARIOUS were the contents of the pieces before me ; to which, of course, it may be supposed, little more attention was paid till Morpheus had sealed, and the God of Day unsealed, my eyelids. They then impressed me with an un-

common idea of the *versatility* of FLY-BLOWN, who could thus exhibit to posterity such admirable portraits of the vices and follies of *London* ;—vices and follies which, more or less, exist in all great cities ; but which it belongs only to an unprejudiced Observer of Men and Manners to illustrate with truth in his *own day*.

With all their faults—their *mighty* but *inglorious* faults—I transcribed, and transcribed them with a pleasure of which I now wish the reader to participate in a *printed form*. To the present Actors in the grand scene of Life, it may prove a source of variegated amusement ; and to our *successors in that scene*—our children, and our children's children—as exhibiting in *miniature* a picture

ture of the Times, *warm from the pencil of a Master*, it will not fail to furnish curious topics of *information*, as well as objects of *amusement*.

THE HISTORY OF FEMALE FASHIONS IN 1762.

[Intended for the —— MAGAZINE.]

SINCE the *World* was at an end *, there is no monthly or daily writer who takes notice of the DRESSES of the Gentlemen and Ladies now IN SHOW; indeed, by way of Frontispiece to a work or two, we have had a whole length etching

* After what has before been intimated, it is hardly necessary to add, that all the subsequent pieces are the genuine productions of GEORGE ALEXANDER himself.—George was a wit—the very *prince* of wits; but he was no prophet; nor, when he talks of “The *World* being at an end,” could he foresee what we, his descendants, have seen—the creation

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ing of a Lady, in a style calculated equally to please the present, the last and future ages.

THE things are pretty, to be sure, and nothing could be better designed for prints to be dressed in silks (as Misses used to do) than such etchings ; but yet those are not sufficient directions for country-shopkeepers to cut patterns by. But we shall oblige our customers with a succinct, critical, impartial and authentic account of every alteration—

of a new World—yes, reader, a new World in the mighty form of a NEWS PAPER, and, as such, solemnly christened and baptised, in the presence of many of the *High Priests of Typography*, on the memorable first day of January 1787. “Such Things *Are* ;” but, were George himself in existence, he would pointedly but roughly say, in his usual manner, “Such Things should *not be*.”—FASHION ! psha !—Better be in *no world at all* than be excluded from what, in the present century, appears to be the grand object of human idolatry—the WORLD OF FASHION. But how widely in every article, even the grand article of Dress not excepted, have the good people of London *differed from themselves* in the short space of thirty or forty years ! It becomes not us to announce the cause : for the pen of an ALEXANDRIAN STEVENS it was reserved to illustrate the *mighty*, and (we will add) the *judicious* contrast. EDIT.

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tion—Sacks, Trollopees, Trains, Caps, Hoods, Hats, Flyes, Muffs, Tippets, Slippers, Stomachers, Gauzes, Coxcombs, Flounces, Beads and Garnets, undergo so plainly, that a Lady at the Land's-end shall, in ten days after a new Mode has made its appearance at St. James's, be as well acquainted with its excellencies and intricacies, as if she had breakfasted at Ranelagh, dined with my Lord Mayor at Guildhall, or danced at a Birth-night assembly.*

No change in the system of the State, nor in the system of the Ministers of the State, has been more remarkable, than the revolutions which have happened lately to Ladies' Head-dresses.—Heaven keep their heads in good order, I say !

FROM wearing no caps, they are now become hooded like Hawks†, enwrapping their heads

E 5. and

* Bravo ! George ; this is in thy own style : and well in all thy styles with pleasure do we still remember thee ! ED.

† Hawks ! why even at the present moment we see them hooded, aye, and capped too, like GIRSEYS. EDIT.

and faces about, as if they were bandaged for fractured skulls. Can any metamorphosis be more whimsical than this?

NOT even the Tartarian usurpation in China (where there was also much work about head-dresses) could exceed it.

THE FRENCH NIGHT-CAP.

OUR fine women have, by covering their cheeks with this fashion, put their faces into an eclipse. No Lady, when dressed in this mode, can do more than peep under the lace-border. Perhaps they (we mean the French Night-Cap) are intended, like blinds to a horse's head harness, to teach ladies to look-forward.—A good hint, however!—Yes, ye wits of the day, egad 'tis a Devilish good one!

IT has been whispered, indeed, that this mode is an introduction to Pepery; it is to bring in the VEIL by and by, as a sort of trial, to see how our English Toasts will take it.

SOME

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SOME ill-natured persons, indeed, go so far as to say, that every woman who wears these vi-sage-covers, has done something she should be a little ashamed of, and therefore don't care to shew much of her face: but for my part, who am good-nature itself, I pay no attention to such scandal.

THE RANELAGH MOB; OR THE HOOD FROM LOW LIFE.

THIS is a piece of Gauze, Minonet, Cat-gut, or Leicester Web, &c. &c. which is clouted about the head, then crossed under the chin, and brought back to fasten behind, the two ends hanging down like a pair of pigeons' tails.

THIS fashion was copied from the silk-hand-kerchief which market-women tie over their ears, roll about their throats, and then pin up to the nape of their necks.

THEY were first worn in the Inner Square of Covent-garden-market, among the green-stalls; and from thence they were introduced into the

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Outward Square, or Piazzas, among the stalls there.

MRS. JANE DOUGLAS (of PROCURING memory) who was a very great market-woman in her way, was the first who made a Scotch lawn double neck-kandkerchief into the Mob above-mentioned.

HER Female boarders would do as the Mistress did, to be sure; and after a little cut and contrivance, away they whisked in them to “Runalow.”

THE Ladies of Fashion there, who sometimes dress almost like Ladies of the Town, (and sometimes not so well) immediately took the hint. The fashion flew abroad upon the wings of Whim; and, as Schioppius observes, “instantly spread itself over the face of the land.”

THE MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS CAP,

EDGED down the face with French beads, is certainly very becoming to some complexions; but

but as the cap is made of black gauze, and saves washing, it has too much good housewifery in it, ever to be a cap in immense taste.

THE FLY CAP.

THIS is fixed upon the forehead, forming the figure of an over-grown butterfly, resting upon its head, with outstretch'd wings: 'tis much worn at present, not that it either adds to the colour or outlines of the face; but as these caps are edged with Garnets, Topazes, or Brilliants, they are very sparkling, and a fide-box-appearance is not now altogether the consultation of elegance, but of ornament and amorous intrigue.

THEREFORE, those ladies who make the most show, are looked upon to be the finest women, if not the most susceptible.

IT is become a very interesting dispute, among the Connoisseurs in general, whether the present Turban Roll, which is now worn round the Mecklenburg Caps, was taken from the Egyptian

Fillet,

Fillet, the Persian Tiara, or the wreath round the eldest Faustina's Temples?

WE have the pleasure to inform the married gentlemen, particularly those who, in their BUCKISH days, have been a little so-so-ish, and are too apt to look jaundiced upon their ladies, that Stiffened Stays are again coming into fashion.

MANY an unhappy-headed husband, to be sure, has provokingly pretended to prove, that the introducing Fardingales in Queen Elizabeth's days, and the leaving off Stays in ours, arose from the same necessity.

ILL-NATURED old Batchelors have been virulent enough to insist, that some of our fair country-women adopted the Stayless Fashion, for the convenience of Intrigue, when the time would not wait for undressing.

HOWEVER, it must please every well-wisher to his country to hear, that our ladies who are the finest

finest ornaments of it, will no longer sacrifice grace to ease; and that we shall once more have our women as shapeable as the Toasts in the time of Mat. Prior, who describes their waists by saying they were FINE BY DEGREES, AND BEAUTIFULLY LESS.

To this we may add, that the ladies, as to their shoe-heels, go just as they did; no fixed measure; some as broad as a tea-cup's brim; some as narrow as the China circle the cup stands upon.

BELL-HOOPS, Blond Laces, Pompoms, Necklaces, as usual. Modesty-bits—out of fashion, and hats are trimmed as every person pleases

HAVING thus, “ex pede Herculem, egad,” as honest Ranger says, taken the circumference of the Ladies, the Ladies Heads we mean, nor omitted to notice them even at their Shoe-heels, let us, from top to toe, exhibit the state of fashions among

among our Heroes of the Masculine Gender: and in doing so, suppose we try our hand by giving

A CHAPTER of HATS, after HIPPOCRATES.

HATS are worn upon an average six inches and three-fifths broad in the brim, and cocked between Quaker and Kevenhuller. Some have their Hats open before, like a church-spout, or the tin scale they weigh flour in: some wear them rather sharper, like the nose of a greyhound; and we can distinguish by the taste of the HAT, the mode of the Wearer's MIND. There is the Military Cock, and the Mercantile Cock; and while the Beaux of St. James's wear their Hats under their arms, the Beaux of Moorfields-mall wear theirs diagonally over their left or right eye.

SAILORS wear the sides of their Hats uniformly tacked down to the crown, and look as if they carried a triangular apple-pasty upon their heads.

I HOPE no person will think us disaffected; but when we meet any of the new-raised infantry wearing

wearing the buttons of their Hats bluff before, and the trefoil white worl'd shaking as they step, we cannot help thinking of French Figure-dancers.

WITH the Quakers, 'tis a point of their faith, not to wear a button, or loop tight up; their Hats spread over their heads like a pent house, and darken the outward man, to signify they have the inward Light.

SOME wear their Hats (with the corner that should come over their foreheads in a direct line) pointed into the air; these are the GAWKIES.

OTHERS do not above half cover their HEADS, which is indeed owing to the shallowness of their crowns; but between beaver and eye-brows, expose a piece of blank forehead, which looks like a sandy road in a Surveyor's plan.—Indeed people should hide as much of the face under their Hats as possible; for “ very few there are but what “ have done something for which they ought to “ be out of countenance !”

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I REMEMBER at a droll Society established in Dublin, called the COURT of NASSAU, a gentleman was indicted for wearing his Hat in the Court : the Attorney-general moved in favour of the Defendant, that the indictment was falsely laid ; for it was expressed, “ the gentleman had his Hat upon his head ;” and the Attorney proved his client “ not to have a HEAD.” Now if in London no persons were to wear Hats, but such as have Heads, what would become of the Hatters ? Yet this we may safely avow, that a man may shew by his Hat, whether he has a Head, or at least by the decorating it, whether his Head is properly furnished. A gold button and loop to a plain Hat, distinguishes a person to be a little lunatic ; a gold band round it, shews the owner to be very dangerously infected ; and if a tassel be added, the Patient is incurable.

A MAN with a Hat larger than common, represents the fable of the “ Mountain in Labour ;” and the Hats edged round with a gold binding, belong to the Brothers of the Turf.

C H A P.

C H A P. II. Upon Wigs.

ELABORATELY have both Ancients and Moderns expressed themselves concerning the Brain, and the Pineal Gland ; yea, and concerning Ideas and Cogitations, by which the Head, or the Animal Spirits of the Head, properly trammelled, might pace in good order.

BUT the only persons who can properly be of benefit to HEADS *, are Periwig-makers, and Doctor Monro, Physician to Moorfields Hospital.

WIGS are as essential to every person's head, as lace is to his clothes ; and though understanding may be deficient in the wearer, as well as mo-

* Little, at this period of his gloomy gaiety, (and who, without, perhaps, a shilling in his pocket, can in his heart be otherwise than gloomily gay ?) did George think, that with the assistance of Hats, as well as Wigs, cocked, and dressed according to his own original fashion, to decorate the heads of Fools, he should have the happiness to finish his days with all the *otium cum dignitate* that can flow from the possession, blessing while it is always blessed, of an independent fortune. Edit.

ney, yet people dressed-out look pretty ; and very fine Gentlemen, thus embellished, represent those “ pots upon Apothecaries shelves, which are much ornamented, but always stand empty.”

BEHOLD a Barber’s Block unadorned ! Can we conceive any higher idea of it, than that of a bruiser just preparing to set to ? Indeed, with a foliage round the temples, it might serve in an auction-room for the Bust of a Cæsar ; and provided it were properly worm-eaten, would be bid for accordingly. But of that hereafter ; our business now is to shew the consequence of WIGS.

IMPRIMIS,

THE ’prentice MINOR-BOB, or Haircap. This is always short in the neck, to shew the stone stock-buckle, and nicely stroked from the face, to discover seven-eighths of the ears ; and every Smart we meet so headed, seems, like Tristram Shandy, to have been skating against the wind ; and his hair, by the sharpness of the motion, shorn from his face.

NEXT

NEXT the Citizen's Sunday Buckle, or BOB-MAJOR. This is a first-rate, bearing several tiers of curls, disposed in upper, middle, and lower order.

THEN the Apothecary's Bush, in which the Hat seems sinking like a stone into a snow-heap.

THE Physical and Chirurgical Ties carry much consequence in their foretops, and the depending knots fall fore and aft the shoulders with *secundum artem* dignity.

THE Scratch, or the Blood's Skull-covering, is combed over the forehead, untoupeed, to imitate a head of hair; because those gentlemen love to have every thing natural about them.

THE Jehu's Jemmy, or "White and All-White," in little curls, like a fine fleece on a lamb's back, we should say something upon, were it not for fear of offending some Gentlemen of Great Riches who love to look like coachmen.

To

To the ingenious Mr. HOGARTH the Town is beholden for the delineation of the Five Orders of Wigs, with their elevations, proportions, and profiles.

We humbly recommend it to every person of taste, who has not already bought one of the aforesaid designs, immediately to become a purchaser.

FOR the amusement of those who have not bought the Architechtonical Plate of Periwigs, we shall describe them in this chapter, it being immediately relative to the subject of our present pen-and-ink employment.

In this Print over the first Row is written the title
EPISCOPAL.

THE first Capital discovers only a forehead, nose, lips, and one eye ; the rest of the face is eclipsed by the Wig's protuberance, and appears like a small piece of beef baked in a large pudding, vulgarly called a Toad in a Hole.

THE

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THE next three etchings are only the hinder parts of heads. By those, Mr. Hogarth satirises the present age for their immoralities, which are so notorious, that three-fifths of religion turn their backs upon us, not being able to behold such wickednesses.

THE last visage in the line has a true pedantic contempt marked upon it: the foretop like the forked hill of Parnassus, with a roll down the forehead, like a MS. scroll, and the eye-lids are almost closed, which denotes the wise man's wink, who can see the world with half an eye: the muscles of the countenance are curled up into disdain,—and he seems to say—“I despise you, “ ye Illiterati—I would not part with one Sine-“ cure for the salvation of all uneruditied Cos-“ mopolites.”

THE immense quantity of grizzle which is wove into these Wigs, carries a two-fold design; a design for Reverence, and a design for Warmth. The make of these Canonicals evidence the care this order take of themselves, for the sake of those

com-

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committed to their trust ; and the profusion of
curls or friz in each, denotes that the wearer must
be most learned ; because, as the country-folks
say, why should they put a double coat of thatch
upon a barn, without there was a greater propor-
tion than ordinary of grain housed therein ?

The next Row is inscribed ALBERMANIC.

THE first Wig has two ends, exactly like the
dropsical legs of some overgorged Glutton ; and the
three-quarter face indicates Plenty, Porter, and
Politics. On the Brow, domestical signification
is seated ; a look necessary to each master who
dozes in his arm-chair on the Sunday evening,
while his lady reads prayers to the rest of the fa-
mily. It is a countenance which carries dignity
with it, even at the upper end of a table at a
turkey eating.

THE second has one lock dependent, like a
Turkey sheep's tail. The bulge of hair which
covers the cheek seems like a poultice stuck on
for the tooth-ach. The wearer of the Wig, we
are certain, from the caricatura of the profile,
could

ceuld make speeches, knew the nature of debentures, and was much harrassed by cent. per cent. commerce. Many sleepless nights has he exhausted (by the side of his unemployed lady) in scheming how to fix, for half a day only, the fluctuating chances of Change Alley.

THE third Wig, as the sailors say, is all a-back; by the swellings of the full bottom we have an idea of MAGNA CHARTA consequence, and can guess the wearer would say something if he saw us.

THE next is parted triangular-wise, to fall on each side of the shoulders. This design originally was taken from a nutting-stick. Thus one of our finest capitals was delineated from a square tile, a weed, and a basket.

WITH all modest conjecture we presume, from our intense application to hieroglyphicks, that the semicircular sweep at the ends of the last mentioned full bottom, signifies a GOLD CHAIN; but as we are Englishmen, and will have nothing

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to do with chains, we shall hasten on to the Wigs and Chins in the third Row, titled,

LEXONICAL.

GREAT men are always celebrated for great things, Cicero for his Wart, Ovid for his Nose, according to Slawkenbergius; and this portrait seems to be ushered into notice by the curvature of the Chin.

How venerably inelegant do these Lexonicals appear! Here is indeed law at full length! Special pleadings in the fore-tops; declarations, replication, rejoinders, issues and demurrs in every buckle. The knotty points of practice in the intricacies of the twisted tails, and the depth of the whole Wig, emblematically express the length of a Chancery-suit, while the black coif behind looks like a blistering plaster.

BUT it is not enough to shew the look of a thing; let us suppose one of these Lexonical Etchings animated. "Hem—hem—hem.—Gemm of Jury—I'm

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I'm counsel in this case for the defendant—My client, Gemm, is a Cook—she was dressing dinner—hem—hem—hem—or, as the law more classically describes it, she was “ faciendum roastandum, boi-“ landum, fryandum and fricaséandum.”—Now, Gemm, the plaintiff wanted a sop in the pan—my client possessed a right of refusal; but he forcibly entered the premises, the Kitchen; for, as Serjeant Plodding says, in the 49th fol. vol. of the law's abridgment—a Kitchen is “ une locus pour logement saucepannis, stewpannis, cum oter quelque chose pro potationes & brothationes.” And further it is declared, a Kitchen is “ camera necessaria pro usu cookare cum dressero scullaro coalholo stovis smoak jacko.” Therefore, Gemm, this case is not to be looked on through the medium of nœum and tuum; for the law has no medium, and right and wrong are its shadows; it looks not upon an action in a partial light: for the eye of the law is neither like a lady's eye, nor a sheep's eye, nor a hawk's eye, nor a whore's eye; neither does it squint through the spying-glass of the senses, or put on self-love's spectacles; the law looks on every figure, as if it was no

figure; on every thing, as if it was nothing; and on nothing, as if it was every thing; for the law is our liberty, and it is very happy for us, every person is at liberty to go to law. Now, Gemm, the plaintiff was in the dripping-pan; but how was he in the dripping-pan? Did he push himself, or was he pushed in?—There lies the distinction between the Quodlibet and the Quidlibet. If he pushed himself in—we must have damage for our Kitchen-stuff; for, as it is said, “ primus strokus est absolutus malus sine jocus.”

C H A P. III. FROCKS, COATS, SURTOUTS, and WALKING-STICKS.

EVERY gentleman now, by the length of his skirts, seems Dutch-waisted, or like a Bridewell-boy, with a garment down to mid-leg; and they are so much splashed sometimes behind, that I have, when following in a dirty day one of these very fashionable frock-wearers, been tempted to call out,—“ Pray, dear Sir, pin up your
“ Petticoats!”

THEN

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THEN their cuffs cover entirely their wrists, and only the edge of the ruffles are to be seen ; as if they lived in the slovenly days of Lycurgus, when every one was ashamed to shew clean linen.

THE Mode-makers of the age have taken an antipathy to the LEG ; for by their high-topped shoes, and long trouser-like breeches, with a broad kneeband, like a compress for the ROTULA, a leg in high taste is not longer than a Common Councilman's tobacco-stopper.

FINE scarlet shag Frocks were becoming, while no persons appeared in them but real gentlemen ; but since Tumblers, Strolling Players, and French Figure-dancers dress themselves in such martial outsides, it is to be presumed, every one else will quit this very lasting habiliment, unless he has a mind to pass for one of those Exotics above-mentioned.

BLUE Manchester velvets, with gold cords, or rich button-holes, are generally the uniform of Bum-bailiffs, Slight-of-hand-men, and Money-

droppers. But plain suits of those cottons, of grave colours, are the dress of Shop-riders and Country Tradesmen.

WALKING-STICKS are now almost reduced to, an useful size.

Is it not wonderful, we should put forth so many paragraphs concerning Female Fantasticalness, as we are prone to do, and never consider, that our own heads are but mere Piece-brokers' shops full of the Remnants of Fashion ? Do not some of us strut about with walking-sticks as long as leaping-poles, as if we were pioneers to the troop of Hickerry Cutters ; or else with a yard of varnished cane, scraped taper, and bound at one end with wax-thread, and the other tipp'd with a neat-turn'd ivory head, as big as a flyer penny, which switch we hug under our arms so jemmy ? — Could our Fore-fathers be such fools ? Like enough 'faith ; and as we are but twigs of the same trunks, we scorn to degenerate from our ancestors.

SURTOUTS.

SURTOUTS now have four laps on each side, which are called Dog's-ears: when these pieces are unbuttoned, they flap backwards and forwards like so many supernumerary patches, just tacked on at one end—and the wearer seems to have been playing many bouts at back-sword, till his coat's cut to pieces. When they are buttoned up, they appear like comb-cases, or pacquets for a penny-post-man to sort his letters in. Very spruce Smarts have no buttons nor holes upon the breasts of these their Surtouts, save what are upon the ears—and their garments only wrap over their breasts, like a morning-gown.—A proof, that dress may be made too fashionable to be useful.

How far several sorts of people dress above themselves, and “ wear the cost of princes on unworthy shoulders,” it is not in the compass of our plan to examine; but we must beg leave to observe, that PROPRIETY in dress is the indication of a good understanding; and those persons are blest with the nicest tastes, who never sacri-

fice sense to show, or derogate from that great rule of right,—The GOLDEN MEAN.

BE this as it may, the Literati of *Europe* having established a Classical Committee, to enquire into the origin or invention of FASHIONS, gave in their first report last week; which, for the amusement of our English readers, we have translated from the *Lingua Franca*, literally, *viz.*

THE MUFF and BELT, worn by grown Gentlemen, were invented by *Saturn*.

IT was VENUS (one day putting on, in a frolic, her Gallant's helmet) who took the hint, and ordered the first BONNET; and it was MINERVA invented, what is now called, the *Chevaux-de-frise* Cap.

THE Goddess LUCINA brought up the use of packthread Stays; and in a dissertation upon child-bed linen, the Scholiasts observe, that, for the sake of SEMELE's memory, Jupiter erected the first Foundling Hospital.

PALLAS invented cold Cream, and Lilly of the Valley Water ; for as her blue-eyed Goddesship was much upon her travels, she was liable to be Sunburnt.

DIANA brought *Rouge* into request : as she was obliged to be out so late at night, her complexion was much impaired ; and she was forced to have recourse to Art, as our present Ladies of Fashion are. But as to her intrigue upon mount *Latmos*, it was a cruel aspersion.

ENDYMION was a famous Miniature Painter, in those days. Diana used to go to him in an evening to sit for her picture ; for the Goddess, being only a Night Beauty, would not be drawn by daylight.

CUPID one day pinning one of his Mama's Breast-knots upon one of the plumes of Mars, the God of War resolved to wear it afterwards as a Favour, and from thence came the origin of Cockades.

HERCULES was the first Wrestler; BACCHUS the first Toast-master. MERCURY instituted Foot-races. VULCAN invented Catgut or Network. JUNO was the first Lady (no offence to our present Orators) who read Curtain-Lectures; and every school-boy knows why four-wheeled carriages are called *Phaetons*.

MIRDAS is the tutelary deity of modern Critics and Connoisseurs; and we take MARSYAS to be some very impudent foreign Performer, who was saucy to his Patron APOLLO; for which his master, as a man of sense ought to do, stripped him, and had the fellow kicked out of doors.

FROM APOLLO and DAPHNE came the Club of Fortune-hunters; and the meeting of the Muses on *Parnassus*, gave modern Ladies a hint for establishing Morning-Concerts.

END OF THE FIRST SCHOLIUM.

WE

JOURNEY THROUGH LONDON. 10

WE shall next present the public, or at least those of the public who please to become our readers, with a declamation upon

T R A I N S.

AN ell and a half of silk falling upon the ground in a slope, from the hips of a fine woman, must, according to our ideas of elegance, add dignity to her steps ; and while the Train trails along the gravel of St. James's Park, harrowing the rubbish as she moves, it leaves a track like what we discern in the water, when we follow a vessel in full sail.

SUCH graceful appendages are not only becoming to persons of fashion, but are very proper, as they encourage the silk manufactories, the consumption of silks being the restoration of Spittle-fields ; and no fashion is likely to find the looms so much employment as the article of Trains.

THERE was a Meeting, indeed, of the Leather-sellers, Tanners, and Curriers, concern-

ing a method of preparing calf, hog, horse, and dog skin, to line the bottom of the Trains, not only to prevent their tearing out so soon, but, as the bill which they presented set forth, it would keep them cleaner, since leather was not so liable to be soaked through as silk.

BUT the Silk-weavers, Mercers, Mantua-makers, Piece-brokers, and Pincushion-makers, had interest enough to have the petition rejected; for, as they in their answer observed, such linings would make one Train last a whole season, which would be very detrimental to the respondents wives and families.

YET this scheme would be of great service to those young Ladies who do not make up above one Train in a summer;—for now they are obliged to abridge themselves of much grandeur in their gait, by looping up their Trains on each side of the petticoat, for sake of cleanliness, the flaps hanging down like the ears of a large Mastiff.

YET I have sometimes, I confess, seen young Ladies spirited enough to let their Trains trail along

along the flag-stones of Bishopsgate-street, and drag upon the pavement of Whitechapel.—It is true, they have a little damaged the edges of their dignity by it ; but what signifies a fine woman putting on fine cloaths, if she does not wear them as she should do ? Besides, how can we, as aptly as SIMONIDES did, compare a woman to a peacock, unless she bears herself in consequence at every step, by the sweep of her tail ?

THIS sweep at the bottom is now grown too common ; for it was but last night that my next door neighbour, who takes in stays to repair, hired a parish-girl for her servant ; and I heard her this morning tell the wench where I live, that she had sent an Irish poplin to the scowrer's, and it was to be made up with ruffle-cuffs ; but yet, for all that, she would not appear in it at Church, if it had not the true quality sweep at the bottom.

BUT suppose we now take a peep at the Fashions of former times.

IN days of old, the Bird IBIS was held in great veneration, and eagerly sought after throughout Ægypt.

Ægypt. Throughout England, at the proper season, men and dogs too are as assiduous in finding Birds out. Then we have Canary-bird-breeders, Cock-feeders, Pigeon-fanciers, Parrot-tutors, Quail-pipers, Partridge-setters, Rook-bolters, Duck-decoyers, Capon-makers, and Snipe-shooters.

THE Sacred Chickens were formerly looked after with great care ; do we not now as carefully examine our Cock-pens ? The AUGURS used to draw great consequences from the fowls who were kept for that purpose picking up the corn. Sporting men in the present times draw great sums from observing the fowls kept for that purpose in their fighting.

WE excel the Ancients in our Horse-races. Notwithstanding we have not so great a genius as PINDAR to celebrate them, we have Mr. POND and Mr. HEBER to register them * ; and for the recovery of a bet, the authority of either of the above-

* Yes ; but, superior to them both in every respect, the Gentlemen of the Turf of the present day can boast of a Weatherby. EDIT.

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above-mentioned Secretaries of the Turf is more to be depended upon than all the Greek Odes of Antiquity.

THE combat of the CESTUS, or boxing in steel mufflers, was a great exercise among the Ancients. Similar to that were the Bruising-bouts which used to be at Mr. JOHN BROUGHTON's *. The combatants in the Olympic Games were made much of by their friends ; the Bear-garden Champions made much of themselves, by sharing the box between them.

THE Ancients erected many Temples out of a point of devotion ; we build many out of a point of fantasticalness.

THE Temple of BALBEC in the Desart is the wonder of every traveller ; our Chinese and Gothic Temples travellers will as much wonder at.

When

* And are, at this moment, among the *professional* Gentlemen who take lessons in the capital art of Bruising, at the Academies established for the purpose, by those renowned sons of *Fifty-cuff Science*, Johnson, Mendoza, Humphries, and Ryan, *cum multis aliis*. EDIT.

When we view a piece of Ancient Architecture, we are amazed at the stupendousness of the undertaking, and the genius, the art, the elegance, with which it is executed. But when we look at many of our modern things, we are astonished at their meanness, and wonder how so much money could be thrown away without either genius, or art, or elegance.

As to the History of the AMAZONS, their kingdom is doubtful; but our English Ladies are so very Martial-minded, that their chief diversions are Routs and Drums.

THERE are but two points in which I find we differ essentially from the Ancients, in respect of modes; one of which is RELIGION. They had rather too much, we have too little: their fine Ladies and Gentlemen adored Planets, Elements, Beasts, and Birds; our fine Ladies and Gentlemen only worship Themselves.

THE other distinction which appears between Ancient and Modern Manners,—between the
Ancient

Ancient and Modern Manners of this Kingdom
I mean—is in the Fashion of LADIES' LIVING.

As to DRESSES, enough has been said of them ; besides, in apparel we see old Fashions become new Fashions, and new Fashions become old Fashions ; for as the world turns round, those things turn round along with it.

BUT how are our finest Ladies fallen off from their feeding ! how are they degenerated in their tastes ! from the thick slice of a well-boiled buttock of beef, and a substantial cut round a household loaf, which every Maid of Honour in Queen Elizabeth's days (glorious days indeed !) breakfasted upon ; to the Ladies of this age piddling three or four slices of bread and Butter, pared off from the French rasped roll, thin as wafer-paper..

IN those days—those famous days of our great Maiden Queen Eliza—each Beauty could take off a cup of ale in a morning ; and the Toast then used with drinking was, a large piece of wheaten

wheaten bread, baked brown, well rubbed with nutmeg, and soured smoaking into a tankard of strong beer, while a plate of Cheshire cheese, by way of *desert*, was served up in taste to every Right Honourable beautiful and delicate Lady. Was not this better than the present method of sipping out of cups (not bigger than Fairies' punch-bowls) a meagre potation of mere boiling water poured upon a few dried shrub-leaves?—

“ Surely, surely (as Mr. VETERAN observed) this
 “ is not the way to mend our breed—in instead of
 “ producing HEARTS OF OAK, we shall, in a
 “ century or two, only bring forth piths for
 “ rush-candles.”

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE PREFACE OF A DISSERTATION UPON ORATORY.

JOY, joy to you, O ye Britons! My countrymen, I congratulate you; from A to *Etcetera*, I am yours Positively, Comparatively, and

and Superlatively. This, this is the glorious time, the æra, which, like the returning comet, has long been expected ; the happy instant when the English Language shall be white-washed.

JOHNSON—Alas, we can only say of him as NOLL BLUFF hints about HANNIBAL—he was a pretty sort of a fellow formerly, Sir.—What he has done, is no more to be compared to what is doing, than the scintillated chalybeat particle, dignified by the momentous percussion of flint and steel is to the Arctic Exhalations of the Aurora Borealis.

PEACE be to the manes of that once unabashed existence, Orator HENLEY !—Long life to the British Inquisitor, and all honour and fame attend the remnants of the Robin-Hood Society !—Ye Tottenham-Court Agitators, all laud to the Sanctimony of your Psalm-singing !—Yet, O be mute a moment ! suffer the Spirit only silently to regenerate within you—while I celebrate in character each Elocutionist we have already experienced.

IN this our repository, designed (like Mr. Pinchbeck's) for the preservation of all that's rich and rare, we shall exhibit abstracts of some late Orator's Declamations; and comparing them with those, who by their advertisements promise at present to pronounce to the Town, we shall be better able to judge from their various modus, to which of the Champions we must give the Ground-ivy Garland.

ORATORY is—but what it is, we do not pretend to determine: we are not Orators, only Compilators. Now, although we have excellent laws to preserve the game, we have none to silence unqualified speakers; and though we have many acts to encourage the breed of our horses, there is not in the seven folio volumes of the Abridgment of the Statutes, one clause for the improvement of our understanding; therefore, as there is no occasion to take out a licence to be a public speaker, every one is willing to set up for himself.

THE Fable of Narcissus, who fell in love with his own face, is not inapplicable to great talkers; they

they have fallen in love with their own voices, and that may be an excuse for the irregularity of their expressions ; for if, as the Poet says, Non-sense is Eloquence in love, they may be allowed to talk unintelligibly. In the Robin-Hood Society, often have we beheld a full-fed figure slowly rising from his seat to *verbosify* his five minutes : his head, deep hid in a bristly full-buckled kob, made him look like the sign of the Royal Oak, with an ill-done Face in the midſt on't.

HE began, like Mr. Henriquez, with a scheme for the good of all mankind, and how to prevent War, Bribery, Taxes, and Bum-bailiffs : then he hinted how far the Herring-fishery, and Flounced Petticoats, affected the politics of this nation : assured us that Comets and Card-playing were unknown among the Antediluvians : then made a transition to Turnpikes, and Trigonometry ; proved Operas to be anti-constitutional ; compared the French King to the Bottle-Conjurer ; insisted that the Pyramids of Egypt were built in the Chinese manner ; that turtle eating was an introduction to Popery ; and finished with a meta-

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metaphysical discussion upon SEMIRAMIS, and
SOLOMON-GUNDY.

FLOWERS OF SPEECH, AND SPECIMENS OF
SPEAKING.

Imprimis, ORATIO FLORIDENSIS.

GENTLEMEN,

THOUGH tautology is allowable in practice, I don't approve on't theoretically; therefore I shall plainly, fully, openly, and concisely, I hope, acquit myself, without being critical, or political, or satirical, or mystical, or rhetorical, or schismatical, or chimerical, or whimsical.—I'll give no utterance to any arrogance, with dissonance of deliverance, nor countenance any exorbitance of intemperance, ignorance, or extravagance: what I communicate I shall authenticate, and I beg you'll compassionate: I will not exaggerate, nor contaminate, nor deprecate, nor discriminate, an intemperate candidate, at any rate.—But I prognosticate he must be a profligate reprobate, and illiterate, apt to prevaricate, hesitate, and degenerate.—I'll use no eloquence

eloquence in this conference, in confidence the consequence of my diligence will evidence the excellency of my innocence with reverence to your preference.

LET others, by a flourish of words, fancy it an accomplishment, or an embellishment, by the tongue's blandishment; it is an astonishment that some speakers are so impertinent, to the detriment of every eminent fundement of rudiment.

I TAKE this opportunity, without ambiguity, void of incongruity, with perspicuity, by narrative, to assert my prerogative without preparative or provocative.

I SHALL now conclude without a multitude of solicitude; for the aptitude of men to ingratitude is too plain; so I'll insist that Shakespeare and Milton were sophistical Scribblers, and bad luck to the man who invented the alphabet! Oratory is composed of two parts, Weeds and Flowers; the weeds of Metaphor are the roots of Rhetoric; and the flowers of Phrase compose the Nosegay of Eloquence. A set of Philosophers are like a

bundle

bundle of brush-wood, when they are lighted up by the fire of dispute, and put into the oven of altercation ; then out comes the crumb and crust of fair argument.

TABERNACULI, VEL SUPERNACULI.

MY Brethren of the New Birth, I have the colic of pity ; I am griped with compassion ; therefore afford me a dram of patience, unless ye have a mind to be a lost flock, straying from the folds of regeneration, and become pounded for the Devil's sheep-clipping.

THE world is Lucifer's Flesh-market, and women expose themselves in the shambles of sin, hung out upon the tenter-hooks of vanity ; for Satan hath broken his chain, he runneth about the town like a Bum-bailiff ; he defileth every poor soul he putteth his paw upon ; he draggeth them into the prison of Purgatory, unless the New Birth becometh bail for them ;—then they will be purified by being soaked in the hot liquor of sanctification ; then your sins will be scalded off, like hair

from

from a hog's back; and ye will be boiled in the broth of regeneration, and be made spoon-meat for the Saints to sup a ladle-full.

THERE is the light within us, the light without us, the light that is all round about us: these are lights we are not to make light of; for some are Light-headed, some are Light-hearted, and some are Light-tailed.—To-day I shall only speak of the Light-heads, and I hope my discourse will raise the whirlwind of contemplation within ye; and that you will turn your eyes inward, and examine how your understandings stand affected; for the brain is the head's furniture; and if the ideas are bewitched by external objects, you are throwing the house out of the windows.

THE Light-headed ones are those foot-stools of folly called Poets, and Players; for a Poet's head is the work-shop, and a Player's head is the sale-shop: Tragedy is the blank verse of Sin; Comedy the hasty-pudding of wickedness; and Pantomime the Devil's country-dancing. But words are but wind, and a long discourse must produce the belly-ach; for fear therefore of put-

ting a period to my peristaltic motion, I will here end my Exhortation.

HONESTY AND KNAVERY: AN ALLEGORY.

HONESTY and KNAVERY, when they were boys, went to the same school. HONESTY was a very promising lad ; minded his book, kept his cloaths clean, and spoke truth. KNAVERY used to play truant, stripped his clas-fellows at chuck and hussle-cap, had his cloaths torn with robbing orchards, and was the greatest liar in all the parish. HONESTY's parents were very poor, and it was a long time before any person would take him 'prentice ; at last a Miller, finding the lad was a good scholar, let him keep his books for him ; but he had like to have ruined his master. The Miller turned him away at a minute's warning, and gave him so bad a character, that nobody would harbour him, and the poor boy was forced to lie in the

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the streets : the Parish Officers saying he was full of the small-pox, they would not come nigh him, but the Justice obliged them to take him into the workhouse.

THERE he was found to be a dead weight upon the master, who threatened to throw up his office, if such a fellow was foisted upon him to take care of: a vestry was called, and a motion was made, Whether Parish-Officers had any thing to do with HONESTY ? It was agreed, Nem. Con. they had not; and HONESTY, therefore, was turned out of the workhouse.

KNAVERY in the mean time grew up to be a very acute boy, and several people wanted to employ him as their agent: he promised he'd serve all, but at the same time complained bitterly for want of money. Persons of all conditions then began to fee him, and out bid one another; a thing never before practised ; so that KNAVERY may be said to be the author of BRIBERY.

HE hired himself at last to be Page to a great lady, and as he could write a fine hand, nay he could write all sorts of hands (for KNAVERY was the inventor of FORGERY) the servants employed him to make their bills out ; but my lady's woman proving with child by him, and he refusing to marry her, he was discharged, the same day his school-fellow HONESTY was turned out of the workhouse, and they agreed to seek their fortunes together.

HONESTY's companion wore laced cloaths, and kept great company ; and one day the pair went upon a visit to a man of fashion. As soon as KNAVERY stepped into the saloon, he began to give himself airs of Connoisseur consequence. He talked away without stopping about point of sight, point of distance, entablatures, harmony, projection, keeping, handling, contour, fore-ground, groups, and Corregiesque grace; mingled Michael Angelo and Zeuxis, Salvator Rosa, Praxiteles, Raphael, Vitruvius, Guido, Stuccos, Cameos, Intaglios, Fossils, Minerals and Marcasites. Greedily he was attended to, looked

upon

upon as a man of most exquisite accomplishments, and ushered into the dining-room with all-becoming honours, while his meek-minded companion had a stool set for him in the servants hall.

KNAVERY so far ingratiated himself into the family by flattery, and card-playing, that he ran away with the eldest daughter, a great fortune. Her relations, out of revenge, threw HONESTY into jail as an accomplice, though his companion knew better than to trust him with the secret.

JUDGE what a life HONESTY must lead in prison ! He was ill used by all the debtors ; every one reproaching him for being the cause of their coming to that place. The jailor shewed him no favour ; the prisoners at the master's side despised him, and those at the begging-grate grumbled that he was admitted to share the box with them.

DISCHARGED by an Act of Grace, he attended for a place at a Register-office. Every master of a family was ready to hire him, but either the wife, or the mistress, or the son, or the daughter,

or some favourite footman, butler, or lady's confidant objected to him. He was at last picked up by a girl just left upon the town, but she turned him off the second week she went into keeping. Then he hired himself to her brother, a poor Poet; and his master by his means got acquainted with the Drury-Lane Patentees, who gave him a benefit. But the day after the poor fellow was set adrift, only for hinting to his master he ought to pay his debts.

HIS next promotion was door-keeper to the play-house; but that he chose to resign, and set up a tavern, where he very soon became a bankrupt, because he set out upon such a scheme as must inevitably ruin him; for he would sell wine really neat as imported, draw full measure, and would be neither buffoon, pimp, nor flatterer to his guests: if he would, he might have got a fortune, for every body used his house out of a piece of cunning, that the world might see how fond they were of HONESTY.

THEN, he was recommended to be Usher to a great Boarding-school. There the French Governess,

ness fell in love with his figure, and made a shift one night to creep to bed to him. Out of principle, next morning he married her; but she soon grew sick of her husband, nay, at last thought him so unaccountable, that she got an order for his being put into Bedlam: and to this day it is looked upon as a sure sign of Lunacy, if a man acts HONESTLY.

*A Melancholy but Authentic NARRATIVE,
of the Unparalleled SUFFERINGS which
an ENGLISH COMPANY of COME-
DIANS have endured in their TOUR
along FRANCE.*

[Written by ONE of the TROOP.]

IMMEDIATELY after the ratification of the late Peace between England and France, a Company of Adventurers, who are always, by

G 4. way.

way of distinction, called STROLLING PLAYERS, eager to reap the first advantages that could arise from the Definitive Treaty, took shipping at Dover for Calais, having furnished themselves with all the theatrical *apparatus* of feathers, gilt truncheons, spotted flannels, copper emboss, transparent cloudings, lackered bowls, tin daggers, pantomime tricks, and clock stockings.

WHEN they landed at Calais, they had like to have met with a great deal of trouble, by the Commissary's examination of their Properties, had not, luckily for them, a painted cross, with the words *In hoc signo* wrote round it, been tied upon one of their chests: it was the cross that they used in Theodosius. This made the inspectors suppose them to be good Catholics; and finding a couple of amber bead necklaces, which they had tied together with two pieces of cross'd lath, dangling at the bottom, worn by the Spanish Friar and the Priest in Romeo and Juliet, this confirmed the Commissary in his belief that they were not Hugonots, and he shewed them great respect upon that account.

THEY

THEY opened at Calais with the play of ROMEO and JULIET. This corroborated the inhabitants' opinions of the Players articles of faith.—The play went off with the utmost decency, not one stop in the performance, except an unavoidable accident that befell the English gentleman who performed Romeo.

HE was a remarkably fat man, very heavy, and when he threw himself down on the stage, fell with vast weight; and the platform or floor not being so stout as expected, he broke through the boards, and like a log half out of water he lay, seeming to the audience as if divided, or cut into a moiety of what he was.

CAPULET and Tibalt, the two strongest men in the Troop, assisted by the Friar, released him, and the play continued to be performed with great applause:—but when the funeral procession was represented, to convince my readers that true merit is received alike every where, it was applauded as much at Calais, as ever it was in England. The audience one and all forgot the

play, *nem. con.* they cried out Bravo, Bravo, the Proceffion ! the excellencies of author and performers were forgot, and nothing thought of, or talked about, next day, but the Proceffion, the Proceffion.

As the breaking through the stage prevented that gentleman from appearing next night in Romeo, they gave out the Busy Body, with the Funeral Proceffion.—A full house, and bravo again.—The third night they gave out the Beggars Opera ; and instead of the country dance at the end, Macheath was hanged ; and for Juliet's, they exhibited Macheath's Funeral Proceffion.

So that we find there is not such difference in taste, as people imagine ; for the French are as fond of unaccountable shows, and incoherent pageantries, as any English audiences.

WE are too apt, very often, to applaud exhibitions that are the very burlesques upon reason and nature ; infatuated by our own opinions, we will have every thing to be really fine we fancy is

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is so, without either power to judge, or patience to hear others. In our Theatres, too often, ignorance and obstinacy are arbitrators.

GARRICK, indeed, corrected the audience's taste : he taught them, by the greatness of his acting, to know those nice touches of nature, which they were till then strangers to. When he acted, the audience saw what was right, and became, by observing, more impartial, and less vague in their commendations ; but now they are again returning to that indiscriminateness, from whence they so lately emerged. They begin again, not so much to consider the propriety of a character, as the fun of it ; and as people come and pay their money to be pleased, Why shou'dn't they ?—this is their answer.

BUT to return to our adventurers at Calais.— The prices the French paid to see plays were so low, provisions (such provisions I mean as were substantial enough to suit English stomachs) were so dear, that it was impossible the sharers could live out of the profits, especially as they were so

cruelly used by their own country people ; for though upwards of three hundred English people landed every day at Calais, in their way to Paris, not one of them would stop to bespeak, or even condescend to see a play in English.

" FRIGHTFUL, horrid, monstrous, immensely absurd ! " all the imported London Ladies and Gentlemen called out, when they were waited upon by a deputation from the English Comedians.—" What can these creatures think, " Mama, (this was what Miss Jenny said) that " we comes to France to see English things ? I " am sick of every thing English already." " Right, my dear," replied Mama : " No, " we will see only the French Barletta, and such " fine things." But as to every thing English, they agreed it was horrid, filthy, and abominable.

DESERTED by their own country folks, unintelligible to the inhabitants, uneasy to themselves, hungry, thirsty, and insolvent, they were forced to make a precipitate retreat to Dunkirk.

BUT

BUT at Calais they were forced to leave their baggage behind them. Yet this is not mentioned as a disgrace ; the greatest men, heroes, kings, generals, &c. have been obliged to make as precipitate retreats. Were not the ten thousand Greeks errant Strollers ? and was not Xenophon their manager, who cast their parts, and took their towns for them ?

A *frakaw* or *foopaw* (really I could not make out from the Gentleman's Journal which word it was) so I copied it verbatim—but he observes in the history he wrote of it, that a *frakaw* or a *foopaw* happened among them as soon as they arrived at Dunkirk—the relation of which the reader shall have in his own words.

“ WE got to Dunkirk about dinner-time, and as we sat drinking in our inn, or hotel, or cabaret, or whatever they call it, we had a dispute about Shakespeare, and what was his own writing, and what his commentators had made him say, and spoiled his original text, in trying to make him better than he should be.

I TOLD

" I TOLD Mr. Speechly (the young man who played our Fops)—You must know, Reader, I always act in Ned Shuter's way myself, and people before I left England used to say I was vastly like him when I wore my own hair, and then I had my hat dressed and cocked at his hatter's ; and I bought a frock which he had given to one of the business, and I wore it, and there was little difference in our makes. Why mayn't I in time then make as great an actor? Who knows? Why 'tis all but a knack. There's both Mr. Garrick and Mr. Shuter, why playing seems so easy to them, that they can't take great pains about it : so it is only finding out how they do it, and I shall be as great an actor as either of them— But as I was saying concerning the observation I made to Mr. Speechly about Shakespeare, I told him that there was a line in King Lear, in the Bastard's part, which, as it was generally spoke, appeared to me to be nonsense, because the players said,

I will enjoy my SEMELE in a storm.

Now I insisted on it, that the true reading is,

I will

I will enjoy my SIMILE of a storm :

but young Speechly told me, that he was sure the true reading of that line in Shakespeare was, that as how the Bastard should say,

He would employ his SIMILE upon a storm :

and the young fellow swore he would back his opinion, and say done first for a sum, and began to feel in his pockets, as if he could pull out any money.—But the Prompter told him not to think of laying any such wagers, because the word SEMELE was either Madam Regan's, or Madam Goneril's CRISSEN name, so that the Bastard neither said nor meant any more than as if he had said, I will enjoy Betty or Nanny or Molly, though the wind should blow the tiles off the houses ; just as Oedipus and Tinsel say about “ enjoyment, tho’ “ thunder shook the room.”

“ THE Prompter's great reading struck Mr. Speechly speechless for a minute or two ; but recovering his utterance, looking full at our Prompter,

ter, Speechly told him it was a damned lie. The Prompter made answer, You are a damned foolish blockhead ; upon which a challenge ensued, and into the street they went to box it.

" We made a ring, the French folks stood round, crossing themselves to see two figures half-naked thump one another. I held their apparel, our Manager was Speechly's second, and our Stage-keeper picked up the Prompter.

" THE Commandant of the town sent the guard down to part them ; but the French soldiers stood at the outside of the ring, and seemed to like to look at the battle. Presently down came the Commandant, and asked the guard why they did not advance and part the two bruisers ; but his men replied (as a gentleman told me, who interpreted it to me in English) " that they had had enough of coming among English fighting fellows, and they did not choose to go near them."

" UPON this the officer himself rushed in with his sword drawn, and parted them. This so provoked

voked our Manager, that he pulled off his cloaths, and challenged to box the Commandant upon the spot.

" THE officer ordered him to gaol immediately in his shirt, for some of the French thieves run away with his cloaths, and not one of his company could furnish him, as we were to a man but singly habited.

" IN this unexpected, and most fatal catastrophe, what was to become of us? The Prompter, by his battle, had both his eyes swelled up so that he could not see; and he had dislocated Mr. Speechly's jaw, so that the young man could not utter an articulate sound. I began to despair; I could not see any hopes of extricating ourselves from such a number of difficulties; when fortunately for me, a lady, whom I remembered upon the town in London, some years ago, was coming over with her friend for England, from Dunkirk; and she very generously paid my passage, and franked me to town, because I promised to take care of a monkey, a squirrel, and two guinea pigs for her; all which,

with

with myself, arrived in Covent-Garden, this present year, Nov. 5. after most surprising, and most successless adventures."

AND now, Reader, give me leave to make one observation. I cannot see any reason why our people should be so fond of going to France. I have been there, and all I find the English people get by going there is, that the French will make fools of us, or else teach us such things, as will force us to make fools of ourselves.

The CONTENTION between POVERTY and RICHES; with the ADVENTURES of FLATTERY:

A N. A L L E G O R Y.

IN the vale of Tempe, there once dwelt a mighty Prince, whose name was RICHES. He married the heiress of the family of PLENTY. By her he had a son and a daughter; their names were

Pro-

Prodigality and Avarice. Prodigality the son fell in love with the Lady Luxury, from which match sprung the cripple Misery. Avarice, the daughter, was stole away by her father's steward, Oppression, to whom she bore before wedlock one son, named Infamy.

THE kingdom of Riches was bounded on the north by a vast ridge of mountains, on the other side of which, in the cave of Sloth, lived the sorceress Poverty, to whom Luxury and Prodigality fled, attended by the grand-children of Riches, Infamy and Misery, and persuaded Poverty to make a visit to the land of Plenty. Instructed by her guests, with the help of enchantments, she, in a thick fog, sailed over the rocky confines, and gently dropped, on an unlucky night, into a pleasant vale, called the seat of Good-humour.

HERE, midst cooling zephyrs, fanning gales, waving woods, whispering breezes, and murmuring streams, the little God of Love was sporting, and on that fatal evening had been reveling

ling in the palace of Delight. Reeling out, he found this Sorceress : his senses, heated with wine, did not permit him to discover who she was, but he eagerly conveyed her to a farm-house, called Hospitality. In the morning, when he awoke, and found it was Poverty he had by his side, Love fled away affrighted : there she was delivered of a son, the fruits of that night's acquaintance. She called his name Invention, and by him she was maintained. He built for her the palace of Wantonness, where, under the shape of a Woman of Pleasure, she used to be visited by the servants of Riches. These she soon, by her spells, disabled, and then turned them over to the gaoler Disease, who kept them prisoner in the Castle of Shame.

WHILE these things were transacting in the kingdom of Riches, two young ladies, one a legitimate, and the other a natural child of the same father, their names Fiction and Truth, were travelling that way; but before they reached it, Fiction arose before day-break, dressed herself in her sister's cloaths, and came into the city. Invention fell in love with her : she bore him the

bastard

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bastard Romance, by whose help they erected the fort of Superstition. Now Tumult and Despair filled the once happy plains; the palace of Delight was destroyed; and Love sheltered himself in the cottage where Truth was left, and they were both maintained by a very venerable old gentleman, called Honour. Plenty took wing, Riches lay hid, Infamy took possession of his grandfather's estate, and immediately new-modelled his household: Laziness, he made gentleman of the bed-chamber; Hypocrisy, his chaplain; Debauch, his cook; Flattery, master of the ceremonies; Pride, his wardrobe-keeper, and Riot, his companion.

JUSTICE beheld, with indignation, the outrages committed, and sent the shepherd Industry to re-instate Riches, by whose help Poverty was defeated, Superstition pulled down, Plenty recalled, the house of Wantonness destroyed, and a plain dwelling erected in its stead, called Content, where he lived with his bride the nymph Tranquillity, with whom came Love, Truth and Honour. He then altered his household: Piety was

was made his chaplain ; Exercise, his physician ; Prudence and Honour, his stewards ; Love and Truth, his partners ; Humanity, his companion ; Compassion, Frugality and Obedience, his domestics ; and the sons of Labour, his workmen. Poverty was banished to her cave, and Laziness with her ; Riot broke his neck ; Debauch died of a surfeit ; Hypocrisy took to the stage ; Invention hired himself to a poet ; Pride became pimp to a nobleman ; Infamy was hanged, and Misery put into the workhouse.

THE fairy Flattery was sentenced to wander over the earth, subject to every inconvenience equal to mortals, except death, for a term of years. As she wandered pensive along, a highwayman happened to meet her, but instead of robbing her, carried her home, left off the road, took a large inn, and made her bar-keeper. She there bore her lover a son, called Deceit, who turned Gamester. It is to be remarked, that her voice was the most melodious in the world, and every body that heard her once sing fell in love with her ; and one day a nobleman's son going to stand candidate for
a borough,

a borough, took her with him to assist his election.

AFTER doing my young Lord's business, the inhabitants petitioned her to stay with them. She soon new-modelled the town : to the men she taught the art of writing love-letters ; the women she instructed in the use of looking-glasses.

THE Curate of the parish hearing of her power, sent her up with a letter to his Bishop ; but on the road a Countess fell in love with her, took her home, and she grew so great a favourite, that my lady would hear of nothing, or grant nothing but what this talkative sprite had a hand in ; so that the Fairy was employed from the lady's toilet to the turnspit in the scullery.

THIS lady had many woers, but not any could make an impression on her heart, till one, more sharp-fighted than the rest, bribed the Fairy to his assistance, and by her management in a month's time married the lady, and in another month, such is the ingratitude of man, kicked Flattery out of doors.

She

She was picked up by a poor Poet, to whom she taught the art of dedication ; but he sending her with a copy of verses in praise of Virtue to a Kept Mistress, the courtezan begged her of him, and maintained her as an interpreter to all her lovers. At last the Woman of Pleasure falling really in love, she dismissed Flattery, who then hired herself to a Face-painter, then turned Mantua-maker, next Lady's-woman, and at last set up a Milliner's-shop, where the Prime Minister met her, and brought her to Court. But he falling into disgrace, she forsook him, and resolved from that time forward to attach herself to no one in particular ; but, for the good of the public, she is to be heard of at a great man's levee, and a rich man's table ; in the beginning of Courtship, and at the latter end of a Petition ; but seldom seen a month after Matrimony, nor ever to be found at the Tavern after the third bottle.

The

The AMOURS of WIT and OECOMONY.

A FRAGMENT.

[From an Original MS.]

'MIDST one of the pleasantest and best cultivated vallies upon the face of the earth, in an elegant, neat, and convenient dwelling lived the daughter of Temperance and Integrity. Her name was OECOMONY ; she was not what might be called a Striking Beauty, but the most lovely person in the world, when you came to be intimate with her. Every one, whom she chose to preserve an acquaintance with, fell in love with her : but some of her admirers being rather weak-minded, like other shallow-headed lovers, wanted her to be a slave to the caprices of their tempers. Truly she must only look as they pleased; nor laugh, but when they thought proper; nor speak to any body, but whom they thought fit.—Such behaviour could not correspond with a lady's sentiments, who was so entirely unaffected as Oeconomy.—They used frequently to quarrel with

her, and would indeed have treated her very ill, had not her brother PRUDENCE, who lived in the house with her, always, when they began to behave ill, turned them out of doors.

THEN they used to be way-laid by the spies of Avarice and Extravagance, two sister sorceresses, who lived on the other side of the Mountain of Life.

EXTRAVAGANCE was the youngest daughter of Voluptuousness, got by Folly. She was a girl who possessed a vast share of spirits, and by some people, especially young Bucks of fashion, thought excessively clever ; and like most of her sex, she was immoderately fond of company ; but never could keep any of her lovers long. Living in so unwholesome an air, her paramours, after they had been a little while intimate with her, always fell into a decay, and perished miserably ; except now and then one, who had resolution enough to accomplish his escape, and get into the pure air where OECONOMY lived ; and that place was sure, if not perfectly to recover

ver him, at least so far to mend and heal up his constitution, that he was able to exist afterwards tolerably easy.

AVARICE, the eldest sister, was born of the same mother, but begot by Cowardice; she lived in an old fortress, strongly defended by bolts, chains, locks, bars and portcullis; her porter Suspicion stood sentry.—Fear, Jealousy, Malice, Envy, and Mean-spiritedness, were ever in waiting about her.

HER castle was erected upon a rock, to which there was but one path-way, very narrow across, where brambles, fern, and dockweed had grown so entangling, that it was almost impassable; neither would she spare a single denier to pay a mower for clearing it, although her coffers could hardly lock, they were crammed with so much money; and tho' she knew that walking would make her health better, and there was no other road than that to exercise in, unless she descended into the plain, which she dared not do, lest her servants in her absence should rob her.

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SHE was the most insatiate and implacable of all beings, and always retained a number of wretches to do her drudgery ; to pick up which her emissaries were continually prowling about Oeconomy's avenues, and sometimes, though but seldom, they got a creature out of the environs of Extravagance.

AVARICE would have demolished her younger sister's manor, as she had the most power, and could easily have done it, had she not dreaded that it might, by some means or other, endanger her own domain ; for both edifices were raised by the power of necromantic illusions ; and Avarice had art enough to judge, that whenever Extravagance was destroyed, she, herself, would not long have either dependants or worshippers.

THE lovely relation of Contentment, fair Oeconomy, had not as yet ever sickened with that ague and fever common to both high and low lands, called Love. She was universal in her friendships, but not particularly attached to any one. Her heart, although susceptible of the most

most delicate sensations, was yet undisturbed : she had not seen him who was doomed to be her unhappiness.

WIT was her undoer. Nor think it strange, Oh most benign reader, that affection could be formed from opposition ; so it was, as harmony proceeds from discord.

AT this time in our own kingdom, whose inhabitants are replete with universal knowledge, do not the most accomplished, the finest and most sensible women doat upon men who are their contrasts ? They chuse to cast away perfection upon contrarieties, perhaps for the sake of contradiction.

How this extraordinary Amour happened ; after pulling up a little, just to let our readers take breath, with all historic gravity we shall relate.

ONE morning, after an Olympic Feast, Hebe, tired with attending upon her brother and sister

Celestials during the evening's entertainment, went into Madam Minerva's pavilion to rest herself.

CUPID, who happened to be just then upon the look-out, peeped through the sash window, and saw the blooming Goddess of Health fast asleep upon Pallas's couch. He stole in softly; and whether it was owing to the fumes of the nectar, which she had been obliged to hold her head over so often the night before, that she was not quite herself; or whether the evil genius Inclination took an advantage of her; or whether the book of destiny declared it was to be;—whether it was owing to any of these reasons, or to all of them, or to none of them, we will not pretend to determine; but the prudential scale kicked up the beam, and down with much force went Enjoyment and Opportunity.

FROM the incident of that night, fair Hebe made Venus a grandmother. Her child was named WIT, according to the Eastern manner; because

because his mother, when he was got, had not her wits about her.

THE Cyprian Queen grew remarkably fond of her grandson, nay, was resolved to bring him up herself; but neither Mars nor Vulcan could endure the sight of him, which forced her to put him out to board with Momus.

As he grew up, he was at first every person's favourite; he was invited to every party of pleasure; and it was allowed, that even Olympus would be dull without him.

BUT he was such a rattle-head, so inconstant and so unthinking, that he affronted his best friends: then he was perpetually talking, and abominably insincere; in short, his behaviour soon became insupportable; for he said such things, and in such a manner, that not one of the Immortals chose to keep him company.

CUPID, his parent, began to school him; but the Urchin pulling a picture of FoHy out of his

pocket, the God of Love immediately flapped his wings, frowned at his son, and flew off.

His grandmama, Venus, sent for him to her toilet to talk to him ; but as he immediately repeated to her a copy of verses in praise of Modesty, she turned him down stairs.

At last Jupiter thought proper to call him to an account for his irregularities ; but the Genius, instead of promising the Olympical Rector to be a good boy, began to sing a medley song to Jupiter about a Town-bull, and a Lady going a Swan-hopping, and somebody turning Money-dropper, and a Can of Milk, Sir.

This so provoked Jupiter, that he ordered him immediately to Earth, there to remain during pleasure ; commanding Hermes to see the mandate put into immediate execution.

MERCURY was very fond of WIT's company ; and as to WIT, he loved novelty so much, that for the sake of change he preferred Earth to Olympus ;

Olympus ; his volatile disposition not suffering him to be long easy any where.

HE dressed himself like a fine Gentleman, and Hermes attended him in the character of a servant ; from whence every valet has been nick-named MERCURY.—The first place they landed at, was the very spot where OECOMONY lived, who happened just then to be taking her morning's walk.

WIT had the most winning appearance imaginable, especially to those who were the least capable of discernment. His figure it is impossible to describe ; let it suffice to say, that every person who was not too proud and too insipid to relish Liveliness and Genius, grew immoderately fond of him : no wonder, then, that a person so susceptible of delicate sensations as OECOMONY was, should be prejudiced in his favour from the instant he addressed her.

HE was invited to her pavilion ; they drank tea together ; and she spent the day with him in

the most agreeable *tête-a-tête* imaginable. After supper, when they parted, she sent her steward, Hospitality, with the gentleman and his servant, to her brother PRUDENCE, to beg he would provide beds for them.—Her brother lived just across the river, in a house he bought of Contemplation the philosopher, who had built it for a looking-glass warehouse, where Self-love's customers might supply themselves.

AFTER HERMES and his master went away that evening, lovely OECONOMY began to think of the excessive pleasantry of her guest, and how highly she had been entertained by him ;—nay, she sighed.—It was the first time, indeed—however, it greatly alarmed her. She rose up, walked about the room, could not tell what was the matter with herself ; and though it was late, she was not at all sleepy. The moon shone bright through the folding sail-doors ; she unbolted them, and when out alone, walked up and down the lawn, and at last wandered into the grove.

HERE

HERE backwards and forwards, sometimes fast, sometimes slow, she walked for some time: first she was sick, then she was well: now the nightingale made her head ach, then she wished to hear him: now the moon shone too bright, then the grove was too gloomy: sometimes she was sorry she had seen this stranger, then she was very glad of it: one minute she hoped he would not stay long, and the next she had an ague fit, on recollecting that he talked of going away next morning: then, as she thought it was odd to be there alone, she went in, but came out again; yet went in again, and suffered all those contradictory circumstances which every Lady who has been in love can so easily comprehend; and those Ladies who have not, we beg will fall in love as soon as they conveniently can, that they may the better understand this part of our history.

As soon as PRUDENCE received his sister's card, he ordered beds to be got ready, and waited himself in the porch of his dwelling-house, to honour his sister's recommendation.

As WIT was walking to his house, he broke out in raptures on the gracefulness of Miss Oeconomy's figure, and in the pretty poetical stile of lovers declared, that there was eloquence in her looks, and she spoke in her silence; that she was more lovely than the fairest blossom of the spring; that the blush on her cheeks made the coral turn pale; that her teeth were finer polished than pearl, her breath more aromatic than breezes from the Spice Islands; that her neck sufficed the undrifting snow; that the stars to her eyes were but glow-worms tails; and that the conversation of Celestials to her company was as dull as a winter's noon to a May-day's morn.

HERMES, who was never better pleased than when he could promote mischief, insisted upon carrying a billet-doux to her next morning. This WIT did not immediately assent to; he had never yet tried his talent in love-letters, and had often heard MERCURY say, that a man might be very entertaining as a companion, yet contemptible as a writer; that they who talked the best, generally wrote the worst; that when men of repartee and high frolic

frolic would become writers, for the most part they were as much at a loss as a milk-maid among her betters. WIT, therefore, told HERMES, he would think about the affair, but—— He had not opportunity to say any more, for they were arrived at the house of PRUDENCE, who received them with abundance of hospitality, made some apologies for the homeliness of his dwelling, inducted WIT into the parlour, and observed to him, that it was rather too late, or they would have drank a glass of home-brewed together.

BUT WIT, who was as averse to keeping good hours as he was to keeping his accounts, replied, that time only was to be minded by those who were to be paid for it; that as the single-locked glutton would not stay for them, why should they stay for him; that the present moment was all we could pretend to; what we had, we enjoyed, the rest was no more to us than fame to the dead; that we ought to pick the sweet morsels of pleasure in our prime, and toss the scraps of our age to the iron-toothed offal-monger; that he despis-

ed all time-pieces; and that Inclination and Opportunity ought to be Life's Regulators.

PRUDENCE, who was a stranger to such sort of doctrine, stared at WIT, as a shepherd would do at a wire-dancer. He was amazed at the levity of his guest's conversation, and yet could not help being pleased with his delivering himself in so agreeable a manner.

AND it is certain, whatever serious-looking Self-denial may say to the contrary, that Pleasantry may be taken against the whole field of Philosophy, and Whim will always win the sweepstakes.

So great is the prevalence of good-breeding, that it will now and then force even PRUDENCE to act out of character; which he then did, for he drew a long cork for his guest at midnight.— However, the host took care to let his guest know, but in such a manner it could not be taken ill, that it was past twelve o'clock; upon which WIT sang the following song; which, for the entertainment

tertainment of those readers who have not yet met with it, we shall insert, as follows.

I.

ONE evening Good-HUMOUR took WIT as his guest,
Resolv'd to indulge in a sensible feast ;
Their liquor was Claret, and Friendship their host,
And Mirth, Song, and Sentiment garnish'd each toast.

Derry down, &c.

II.

But while, like true Bucks, they enjoy'd their design,
For the joys of a Buck lie in Love, Wit, and Wine ;
Alarm'd they all heard at the door a loud knock,
And the watchman hoarse bellowed, " Past twelve
" o'clock."

Derry, &c.

III.

They nimbly ran down ; the disturbing dog found ;
And up stairs they dragg'd the impudent hound ;

But

But when brought to the light, how much were
they pleas'd,
To see—'twas the grey glutton TIME they had
feiz'd.

Derry, &c.

IV.

His glass as his lanthorn, his scythe as his pole,
And his single lock dangled adown his smooth
skull:

" My friends (quoth he, coughing) I thought fit
 " to knock,
" And bid ye be gone, for 'tis past twelve o'clock."

Derry, &c.

V.

Says the venom-tooth'd savage, " On this advice
 " fix,
" Though NATURE strikes Twelve, FOLLY still
 " points to Six;
He longer had preach'd, but no longer they'd
 bear it,
[So hid him at once in a hogshead of Claret.

Derry, &c.

VI. This

VI.

" This is right, (call'd out WIT) while you're
 " yet in your prime,
 " There is nothing like Claret for killing of
 " Time."
 " Huzza! (reply'd Love) now no more can he
 " knock,
 " Or impertinent tell us, 'tis past twelve o'clock.
Derry, &c.

VII.

" Since Time is confin'd to our wine, let us
 " think,
 " By this maxim we're sure of our time when we
 " drink;
 " With bumpers, my Lad, let our glasses be
 " prim'd,
 " Now we're certain our drinking is always well-
 " tim'd."

It is an observation made, either before or
 since the Flood, that when Sobriety goes off
 guard, Rakishness comes on. PRUDENCE grew very
 fond of his guest, many long corks were drawn,
several

several droll songs were sung, and many good things said; but WIT grew rather too personal in his repartees, and his host began to be serious in his observations. PRUDENCE began to give WIT advice, which was as disagreeable to the young Genius as if he had offered him physic. They began to grow out of temper with each other; and as the wine went about, their altercations increased; from words they proceeded to blows, and WIT ungratefully, with the help of HERMES, beat PRUDENCE out of doors.

OECONOMY's brother immediately hurried away to his sister's, rapped at the door as if there was a fire in the neighbourhood, and the moment the street-door was opened for him, ran up to his sister's chamber, and waking her, very hastily insisted (without allowing her time to recollect herself) that she should take an oath immediately never to give any countenance to that strange rascal WIT, or ever speak to him again.

At that very instant it happened the young lady was in the midst of a very agreeable dream.

She

She supposed that WIT had been her partner at an assembly that night; that he had seen her home, and was just then saluting her—when PRUDENCE broke in and disturbed her.—It must certainly (as Miss Dy observed) be most cruelly provoking; besides his demanding such a thing in so peremptory a manner, nothing being so *mal à propos* as advice in the stile of an injunction, especially to any young lady who has sense enough to think for herself.

MISS OECONOMY, piqued at her brother's behaviour, told him, she could not comprehend what he would be at. He demanded a categorical answer. She complained he was rather too precipitate. Her unwillingness to give him a promise, made him suspicious; as indeed it would any brother, let him be ever so prudent. He insisted on her obedience and compliance, and told her, he had a right to insist on it.

OECONOMY. “A right, brother? I beg, Sir,
“you won’t insist upon that, however: no per-
“son has, or shall have a right over me; and
“I must

“ I must beg leave to observe, that this treatment (I am sorry to say it) is both impolite
 “ and indelicate.”

PRUDENCE. “ You may think so, sister,
 “ just now—however, I am resolved, before we
 “ part, you shall give me your promise, never
 “ to see that fellow again.”

OECOMY. “ And I am resolved not to give
 “ you such a promise, if you stay here until mid-
 “ night.—No, brother, you'll excuse me,—but
 “ I must not be compelled. I am, thank Hea-
 “ ven, out of my leading-strings ; as to the
 “ young gentleman you hit me in the teeth
 “ with—”

PRUDENCE. “ The young gentleman ! the
 “ young madman, rather.”

OECOMY. “ Well, let him be young gen-
 “ tleman, or madman, or both gentleman and
 “ madman, it is nothing to me, I assure you.—
 “ Is

“ Is it to be supposed, that I can entertain any
“ fondness for a stranger?—Venus forbid!—I?
“ —Me?—No; what’s his figure, or his wit, or
“ his spirits, to me?—To be sure he behaved
“ vastly well here, and was excessively agreeable
“ here—but what can he be to me?—Do you
“ think I can be fond of a fellow at first sight,
“ because he said some smart things, which I
“ must own he did, and told some stories exqui-
“ sitely?—But am I like frail Mortals? Although
“ I am sent among them, as their tutor, am I
“ to hang myself upon a fine fellow’s neck for
“ ever, because I may fancy his company for
“ half an hour?—No, brother; nay, I do not
“ find, that even young ladies of the Earth are
“ so fond of linking themselves for life, when
“ they like; they rather chuse—at least it is taste
“ now—I say, they rather chuse to admit a te-
“ nant for a month or two, than grant him a
“ lease for life. Not that I would do so, were
“ this person you are piqued against fifty times
“ more agreeable, if possible, than he is
“ already.”

PRUDENCE replied, that men of wit were as dangerous as military men, to any young lady, whether æthereal or terrestrial; and began to give her a long string of advice, full of antitheses, allusions, strong sentiments, poignant observations, and fatal examples. During the lecture, the Lady bit her lips, pinched her ruffles, and turned round her bracelet; at last, some of her brother's hints being rather too severe, she rose up, made him a low curtsey, and replied, that since he only came to offer counsel to affront her, for the time to come she desired he would keep his advice at home.

PRUDENCE understood her, that she desired he would for the future stay at home; therefore, in a pet, replied, that he never would have anything more to say to her. Miss OECONOMY gave him the most natural answer in the world. "She could not help it," she said.—"Very well, very well," he rejoined; and flung the door after him in such a fury, that the sashes shook terribly in the frames, and the noise waken'd Susan the cook; who jumped out of bed in a fright,

fright, imagining all the pewter was tumbled down in the kitchen.

FOR a moment, reader, as there is an extempore pause here, let us consider, how PRUDENCE came to act so out of character as he did, falling into a passion; and speaking in a passion; and leaving the room in a passion. Mercy on us!—But what fatal effects have not been done in passion?—Husbands have hanged themselves in a passion: Wives run away with gallants in a passion: Clowns crossed in love have listed in a passion: Losing gamesters bit themselves in a passion: Sober men got drunk in a passion; and we comprehend, that PRUDENCE's passion was owing to being a little guilty of the last article; for he had sat up till five o'clock in the morning drinking with WIT, and I think that was a proof he was a little inclining to be beside himself; although the Editor once met him by great chance; and asked him after this affair; but PRUDENCE denied he ever was fuddled in his life: and indeed, that is what every prudent person always declares; and it is prudent they should.

Miss

MISS OECOMY sat for some moments like one stupefied ; she was shocked at the abruptness of her brother's behaviour ; she loved him, but yet did not like to be schooled ; she could not tell what to make of the fight, as PRUDENCE had hastily related it ; indeed, she was not willing to believe it was so bad on her guest's side. She was determined to be satisfied ; and therefore resolved to go to her brother's house immediately, to hear every particular.

SHE sat at her toilet undetermined as to the colour of her necklace and ear-rings she should go out in. Miss observed to Lettice, her woman, “ there was something immensely odd, and “ vastly surprizing in this story that her brother “ had related ; for by what I see of the young “ fellow (thus she continued) he seemed to be too “ well bred, and a man of more refined taste, “ than to be guilty of such an action. If he has “ struck my brother, I am determined never to “ speak to him, or grant any stranger for the fu- “ ture the least favour, above the rank of com- “ mon civility, and plain hospitality.”

“ VERY

" VERY true, mem; to be sure, some men,
" if you grant them ever so little, will be apt to
" take"—her attendant observed.

" BUT child, (thus her mistress answered) I shall
" soon discover if the young gentleman is guilty;
" for when I go to my brother's, to be sure, this
" person won't chuse to see me, if he has behav-
" ed ill.—Beside's, what should he see me for?"
Just then viewing her face full in the toilet glass,
her eyes sparkled brilliant, a glow of satisfaction
overspread the native ruby of her cheeks, and she
issued out like the Goddess of day-light, when
she is going to undraw the golden-fringed crim-
son curtains of Apollo's apartment.

HER brother, when he left her, declared, he
would take horse that moment, and gallop as far
as four feet could carry him, nor ever return,
till he was certain she had made the resolution
he requested her to do. This the young lady,
we may very reasonably suppose, had forgot, or
she would not have gone to the Lodge, to ask for
her brother, when she knew he was not there.

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DAME Veteran, the maiden prude, insisted on it, that she went to visit WIT, for all she knew how he had used her brother ; and that after PRUDENCE had left her, she behaved very irregularly for so doing. But Miss OECONOMY's historian imagines, that she was so disconcerted, that she was not quite clear at that time in any thing she did. However, to be certain, he asked Lady Lowager Rep ; who replied, “ ‘Pon honner, I’m “ positive the young Lady went to her brother’s “ house on purpose to look for that fine young “ fellow WIT, and to shew her brother she would “ not be piqued, or put upon, as if she was still at “ boarding-school ; and upon my honner (continued her Ladyship) I commend her spirit on “ the occasion vastly ; for ’tis immensely shock-“ ing, and horridly absurd, to think of a bro-“ ther’s pretending to command us ; and that “ Miss was infinitely in the right on’t.”

THE clock had just struck six, the clouds were clear, the air filled with the fragrance of hawthorn blossoms, the little birds sung out in the trees and hedges, as if they were giving a welcome

come to the sun, whose beams mildly descending from the hill-tops, checquer'd the vallies beneath.

WIT and his fellow-rake HERMES were looking out of the window, enjoying all the sweets that such a summer's morning could afford, when they spied lovely OECOMONY tripping along the lawn, which was enamelled with daisies, king-cups, and violets, the flowery mead looking like Creation's lovely carpet.

WIT ran down to meet her ; and as he offered her his hand, she had resolved her features into a frown, and began her rebuke with, “ I am “ immensely surprised, Sir, and wonder how any “ gentleman”—WIT stopped her, by relating the whole affair so whimsically, and now and then looked at her so tenderly, and said so many sprightly and charming things upon the elegance of her taste in dress, the gracefulness of her figure, and the bloom of her complexion, that as music has sooth'd even the resentment of an Alexander, her anger subsided to WIT's silver

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sounds, and forgetting her brother, she suffered the rake to lead her into the pavilion, and *tête-à-tête* they sat down to breakfast together.

GREAT souls by sympathy soon become intimate. From that morning's conversation WIT and OECONOMY grew so exquisitely entertaining to each other, that they vowed eternal affection. He swore upon his knees, often kissing her lovely hand, that from thenceforward her counsels should be his guide.—She raised him from that posture to her lips, generously owned her inclination for him, and in a transport folded the lovely Genius to her bosom.

YE men of this age, think what a gallant must feel, when clasped to the breast of the finest female in the universe, and hear her, in the tenderest accents, confess how much she loved him.

WHAT would ye not do? what would ye not attempt to obtain the unparalleled prize? Would ye not — It is impossible to tell what it is ye would, or would not do.—As for WIT, he was raving

raving for possession, but found that upon his own terms it was impossible.

ALTHOUGH she acknowledged her passion for him, nay held him in her arms, yet she was still so far mistress of herself, as to be capable of preventing WIT's taking the least indelicate liberty, which the hurry of appetite might prompt him to attempt.

BESIDES, WIT, although he might be a rake, was not a villain. He at that time loved ECONOMY with all that violence with which affection is capable of working up desire. But men, even so agitated, are to be awed by a look from the queen of their hearts ; a particular tone which ladies then use, a reproof-speaking look keeping time with their words, will, in an instant, civilise the wildest of our sex into decency ; provided those gallants are blessed with the rarest, though happiest of all Nature's bounties, viz. a SUSCEPTIBLE MIND.

THIS last observation, I presume, will be unintelligible to $\frac{1}{2}$ of those two-legged existences commonly called Men.—So be it;—it was wrote for the entertainment of the other three parts; and in hopes they will read what we write, we shall continue our history.

WIT, finding it impossible to obtain ECONOMY as a mistress, and feeling it was in vain for him to exist without her, committed the boldest action it was possible for a Man of Wit to resolve upon—HE MARRIED her. WIT will not reflect, if he can but succeed in his desires. The moment of gratification is all his wish; and to gain that, he neither cares what becomes of his friend, or of himself. This is what made that famous physical analist Mr. ——(perhaps the reader may remember his name, although I cannot)—who used to say, that men of the brightest parts and fools correspond exactly in their behaviour the moment before enjoyment, both are voracious and reflectionless.

BUT

BUT afterwards, it is supposed that the ideot discovers the brightest signs of rationality ; for by the languidness of his looks, he seems to be in a state of contrition ; while the Man of Wit, imagining his conquest to be a glorious achievement, runs up and down, overjoyed to make his boast of it.

No lady ever enjoyed more satisfaction, at least for some time, after matrimony, than the sister of PRUDENCE. She grew, if possible, more enamoured of her spouse ; such tenderness, such fondness !—Not but I must do our ladies, now living, the justice to acknowledge, that when they are first married, however coy they might behave before in public, they glory to shew how exceedingly they love their husbands, by kissing them continually in company, and toying with them ; speaking such love-formed words in the most innocent and affectionate manner.—As for instance ; “Budsy,” and “Pudsy,”—“Nykee,” and “Usant,” and “I’ll ky, so I will”—proving the truth of the poet’s observation, THAT NONSENSE SHALL BE ELOQUENCE IN LOVE.

IT is impossible for any person who has nothing to dine upon for a whole month except pine-apples, to imagine, after the four weeks are expended, that the fruit is so exquisite a dainty as he fancied it to be the first day he tasted it.

WIT, although he was as passionate a lover as ever paid adoration to the flounce of a fine woman's trollopee, yet at last grew——a——I wish there was a word in any other language but Arabic to describe his situation ; and my printer not having any Turkish types by him, we must content ourselves with appealing to both sexes to judge of his sentiments and situation.

GENTLEMEN and gallants, both married and single, who have been honoured with the bounties of Beauty, when you feel on your sides extraordinary rapture begin to evaporate, can pretty well guess how it was with WIT.

AND the ladies whose affections will often increase by what they feed on, may from sometimes their

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their own similar cases, judge how it was with his lady.

No naturalist has yet accounted physically, why enjoyment should abate love on one side, and heighten it on the other;—but so it is: and we memorandum it as one of those phænomena which is like the loadstone; the effects are known to every body, while the cause from every body is concealed.

WIT, by having his spouse continually in his sight, began to think her not so exquisitely beautiful as she at first appeared to be, her features were so familiar to him; and familiarity is a great fault-finder.—He could distinguish blemishes in her face, which the eye of unsatisfied desire was incapable of perceiving.

HENCE arises the reason why ladies should take care that their lovers are not too familiar with them.

WIT also discovered by degrees, or fancied he did so, which to our sex is all the same, that his

wife was a little silly, because she was now and then childish in her expressions to him ; which was a proof of her extreme fondness, while he imagined it proceeded from her want of having something better to say.

THE wittiest people sometimes think of the silliest things. Thus O ECONOMY's husband imagined his wife to be not so fond of him as she had been, because he thought she did not take so much pains in dressing herself as she used to do. When only husband and wife keep house together, Negligence now and then will pay them a visit ; and we must allow, that WIT's consort did not care to take up so much time in putting her cloaths on as she used to do, because it deprived her of such a portion of her husband's company ; she therefore, since she was married, did not always appear so elegantly neat as she used to do, but would at breakfast be a little upon the flattern, or what is called the modish dishabille, and may do very well where Desire never kept Delicacy in waiting.

BESIDES, WIT grew tired of a life of such sameness, doing nothing, or what he called nothing ;

thing ; which was day by day to rise only to walk ; to walk only to get an appetite to eat a breakfast ; to breakfast merely to support the fatigue of dressing, and playing an hour or two in the morning at the drum-battledore and shuttlecock ; then dine in all proper formality ; and the rest of the time, until bed-hours, wile away in peeling walnuts, paring peaches, giving toasts, taking snuff, talking politics, playing at push-pin, making puns, eating suppers, and telling stories.

THE next day this loving couple arose to toy and toil through the two-thirds of the following twenty-four hours in the same insipidity, at least what WIT thought so.—He was too eccentric to admire such regularity ; he loved mischief, and much company ; he did not want to be like a piece of rare shell-work under a bell-glass in a lady's private apartment :—he rather chose to be a flowering shrub on an herb-stall in the middle of Covent-garden, for every body to look at.

THIS couple saw no company ; the lady not being willing to visit her female acquaintance, for

fear they should fall in love with her spouse ; and as to the gentlemen who were her neighbours, not one of them liked her, although they were of families of great distinction.—At her first arrival she had set out to pay each a visit in turn ; but there were always such a number of equipages, hounds, and servants, that she never could come near their houses ; and if she met any of the Squires themselves, they were always so much engaged about horse-racing, or hunting, or elections, or receiving visits, or building, that they never had time to hear what she had to say to them.

THEIR stewards indeed, whenever they met her, pulled off their hats to her, and invited her to their own houses ; but begged her, for Jove's sake, to keep away from their masters ; because they told her, there was not one room in any of their grand houses fit to entertain her in.

As to the poor people who lived near OECOMY, they used to wait upon her for advice ; but since her marriage, she had left off giving lectures.

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tures. Love had taken possession of all her soul, while her husband had fairly worn his affection out: his heart, soul, and every other metaphysical part of his mind's tenement had not one piece of amorous furniture remaining.

HE began to reproach himself for running so precipitately into this marriage, and wished HERMES would come back again, that he might consult with him; for MERCURY, during the honey-moon of his friend's nuptials, not expecting much of WIT's company that month, had taken a tour round the country.

As HERMES could assume all shapes, and as he was willing to go in one of the most fashionable appearances, he put on that of a Gambler: it was a character which was very proper for the Olympic Messenger to travel with, as he was, by his celestial office, King of the Thieves.

HE arrived at a Horse-race meeting, and mingled among his fraternity. He had the advantage of mortals, because he could see into the minds of mankind,

mankind, and knew at once the groom who was to lose the race, the person who was to win the match at billiards, the party at piquet, or the rubbers at whist: but he observed the English people to be bunglers in their operations, in comparison of the delicacy, spirit, and address of the French or Italian gamblers.—These foreigners could pick every stiver out of a Bubble's pocket with such extreme politeness, that the loser could never be angry with them, they won it so much like gentlemen. On the contrary, the English Family-men are so vulgar!—It is owing to the difference of breeding.

THE foreign sharpers who import themselves into our island, are bred up runners in people of quality's houses abroad, who allow them no wages; but there they are trained, first as pages and pilferers, till they are promoted to be pimps and valets-de-chambre.—But some of these menials, who have souls more daring than the rest, assume the titles of Barons and Counts, &c. introduce themselves with an effrontery of address peculiar

cular to their bringing up, and here run into large sums of money, by their amazing dexterity.

OUR Own-country Gamblers have generally no education ; few of them can write and read. They are bred up common pickpockets under the piazzas of Covent-garden ; from thence become runners or bullies to a bawdy-house ; then bailiffs or money-droppers ; and lastly, sporting men. They have little or no dexterity themselves ; what they plunder the public of is by combinations, or bare-faced denying of betts, and calling some of their confederates to prove the thing to be as they say it.

THE true-bred Gambler must be possessed of the following natural properties. He must have an eye sharp as a hawk, to perceive instantaneously the minutest errors that others commit, and which he must as quick turn to his advantage. He must have a more than ordinary presence of mind, which will enable him to recover any “ faux pas ” made on his side. He must have the nice hand of a surgeon, fit for performing any operation. His countenance must be ingrained to prevent his blushing ;

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blushing ; and he must possess courage enough, or the affection of it, to face down detection.

MERCURY was ashamed to mix with the set of sharpers assembled at that Meeting, and therefore stood by as a spectator. There he observed men of confederate with gamblers : Men
of making use knowingly of false dice : Men of perjuring themselves for the sake of a bett : and men of intruding themselves into good company.

FROM thence HERMES walked to the Assembly-room, where he observed a number of fine female figures elegantly dressed. For a moment he imagined himself upon mount Ida, among the Nymphs and Graces at a celestial merry-making ; but he could not help, as he observed the lovely fair-ones, being sorry that they took so little care of themselves.

THE Assembly was very full—the weather extremely hot—and the door of the hall blocked up by wenches with glass lanthorns ; and over their heads postilions and stable-boys had clambered, to see all the fine sights, so that not a breath of air could

could circulate that way. But to make amends for that blockade, all the sashes were opened above; which gave every lady an opportunity, after she had gone down with a dance, to have her neck cooled immediately by a strong eddy of wind, which darted down upon it, as she stood unhandkerchiefed.

MERCURY with regret read in the lovely faces of the fine women, by the power of his celestial penetration, dissatisfaction, fatigue, and heart-burning ; and could not help smiling to think, that although so many people had, as if actuated by one mind, assembled that evening together on purpose to attract admiration, to receive pleasure, and give delight, they should be so egregiously disappointed.—One thing indeed MERCURY, with all his penetration, could not discover ; which was, that exquisite transport which the human mind was supposed to partake for four or five hours in “ right hand and left, casting off, setting to, crossing hands, figuring in, back to back, dancing the hay,” till their dresses, by passing so often backwards and forwards, were pulled

pulled to pieces, the ladies heads out of order, their spirits jaded, their complexions sickly, and their tempers ruffled ; and each belle who entered the Assembly in all the pride of dress, beauty, and fine spirits, returned, unless her favourite Strenphon should be her partner, “ immensely discomposed, fatigued to death,” and hurrying into her dressing-room, throws herself on the sofa, quarrels with her squirrel, treads upon her lap-dog’s foot, scolds her woman for not finding the salts sooner, laments her own unhappiness to have none but fools about her, vows she won’t get up till twelve o’clock, and declares upon her honour she’s monstrously tired, that the Assembly was vastly full, and that there was only a parcel of frights to dance with.

NEXT morning MERCURY viewed the Race-comers, as they lounged along the market, or up and down the principal streets, staring with vacant eyes into every private-house window.

SOME people were at the inn-doors, in the doing-nothing-state of lolling against an upright of the

the gateway, cross-legged, and looking like emblems of Indolence, who did not know what to think about.

OTHERS were sitting astride the rails, playing with their whips, fancying themselves on horseback, and whistling at the same time, to put memory off; while others, sitting upon the benches at public-house doors, were picking pebbles, as they sat, and tossing them up into the air, only for the pleasure of seeing them tumble down again—till Cocking began.

BUT HERMES saw others, who were walking at the back part of the town, backward and forward, in a meadow, who were not quite in so tranquil a state as those beforementioned.

THE first was a merchant's clerk, who had been persuaded by one of the Family-men to raise a sum of money against that Meeting, and he should be let into the secret, and touch for three or four hundred.

THE

THE credulous youth, relying upon his seeming-friend's advice, had made use of his master's cash, which, as he was “sure of winning with,” he knew could be replaced without any dread of discovery. But the event turned out contrary to his hopes. By a secret in Sporting, called LAYING A PLANT, he was stripped; and now was come to the resolution of making the best of his way to the Indies; but first, as he could imitate his master's hand exactly, did not think he could be much worse, if he got a draught discounted of 20*l.* though it should be a forged one.

ANOTHER HERMES knew had been drunk over-night, at one of those infamous houses, which at Horse-race times, to the scandal of all Police or Policy whatsoever, are allowed publicly in the country towns, when Mistresses of Brothels in London bring down for the week a parcel of wretched tainted Prostitutes, that are sure to infect every one who is unhappy enough to be acquainted with them, and entail upon posterity infirmities and diseases.

— THIS

THIS victim was but just rose from one of those impure hackneys, and as he had an amiable and loving wife at home, and dreaded the dismal consequences which might attend his last night's irregularity, he was ruminating what excuse he could make to his wife to stay abroad for a month or two.

THE third was a Gambler, who had been weak enough to play upon the square, the evening before, and in consequence of it had lost all his money. He was considering how he could raise some money to go to the Hazard-table at night; but he soon agreed upon his scheme, which was, to make a bett there, without any money; for he considered, if he lost, the consequence was only a kicking: “ And what’s a “ kicking? I’m a Gambler already, known so to “ be, and therefore all the kickings in the world “ can’t hurt my reputation.”

THE last person HERMES thought it worth his while to look at, was a young fellow, dressed very genteel, laying at his length upon the ground..

ground. In his face despair was painted very strong ; and as he was remote from all over-hearers, as he thought (for he could not see HERMES) thus he soliloquis'd :

" I AM ruined, to be sure, compleatly ruined,
" that's certain. What will become of me ?—I
" know enough to be a Sporting Man myself, but
" how to get money to begin with.—Suppose I
" was to take a purse or two ? Many a man has
" robbed upon the highway, who now says Done
" first for 500l.—There are some now, as they
" tell me, that are both Gamblers and Highway-
" men. I should not like that, neither.—I'll
" be one of them, but not both. Gambling,
" to be sure, is the safest way of getting money
" —but then a Highwayman is more honour-
" able.—And what is a man when his honour's
" gone ? Why no more than a pocket without
" money in it.—No, I was born a gentleman,
" and I'll dye one.—I'll take the road—no
" man shall have it in his power to call me a
" scoundrel, however.—I will not be a Gambler;
" my horse is a good hunter, I'll stop the stages."

IT

IT was now time to repair to the Cockpit, and MERCURY entered the door just as the first pair of cocks were pitted. The sudden uproar which always bursts forth from the company on the untying the mouth of the Cock-bags, so much surprised HERMES, that he stepped one foot back, and confessed afterwards to WIT, that although he was used to convey souls across Styx, and must therefore be familiarised to infernal noises, yet the discordant clamour of a Cockpit was more horrid than the triple howls of Cerberus, the shrieks of Ixion, the groans of Sisyphus, the sighs of Tantalus, and all the yells that echo along the banks of Tartarus.

WITH all due respect to the gentlemen of the Ring and the Sod, both main and bye-battle breeders, who can so eloquently lecture upon bone, blood and feather; who can so classically construe out rights, in left, norrils, hackles, brass wings, combs, and coxcombs——what idea, Gentlemen (if you will permit me to address you out of your Cocking characters) what idea must a stranger to our Diversions (as we call

call them) have, when he enters a Cockpit at a Match-time?

He sees a multitude of well-dressed people fitting in circular rows, one above another, before the sport begins, mute as so many mourners, and most of their eyes directed down to a round piece of grass plat placed in the center beneath them.

Would he not imagine that they were performing some silent act of devotion, some secret ejaculation? But at the entrance of the first pair of cocks, to be an ear-witness of the shouts and different tones:—“Come, that bag for 20—I’ll take 6 to 4—I hold 6 to 5—I hold 13 to 4 not the next two.—Ellis for 50—I’ll hold 2 to 1—Done, done—Come, the pyle—Come, the cuckoo—Cuckoo, pyle, and pyle and cuckoo,” alternately then is chorused round the pit, while so fierce is the rage of the two animals, that disregarding all the noises around, with an unaccountable inveteracy—braver, indeed, than what man uses to man—they are cutting and stabbing each other

to pieces, to the amazing emolument of all the spectators, who honour the surviving chicken with shouts of victory ?

FAR be it from the historian of this narrative to be impertinent enough to sacrifice so respectable a community as Cock-feeders, Cock-fighters, or Cock-breeders.

THE person who writes this, is very fond of the sport himself, and has been very much concerned in mains ; but being ill used by some people where he walked his cocks, and after that sold by his feeder, which I believe the gentlemen-breeders all know is very often the case, the editor entirely left off Cock-fighting, and has ever since amused himself with BULL-BAITING, it being a more MANLY and more INNOCENT exercise, &c.

Cætera defunct.

FOR several days I heard nothing about Mr. FLYBLOWN, much as I longed to see, and to converse with a man, who, with *the best propensities*, had been

like myself, a dupe to imprudence, and a victim to adversity. One morning, while ruminating upon *his* fate, and in certain points comparing it with *my own*, happening to look out at the window, I heard his name announced. I flew to welcome him, though a stranger; nor did he discover less eagerness to see me, the possessor of his papers.

IT was from no common cause, however, that thus long his visit had been withheld. *Scribbler-like*, as he told me, he had entered into an engagement with a Bookseller to furnish materials for the *Life of a condemned Criminal*.

AT the words “Condemned Criminal” I started. FLYBLOWN had too much penetration not to perceive my emotion; and to remove it, “Yes,
“ Madam,”

“ Madam,” added he, “ a condemned,
“ but from my soul I believe upon the
“ whole an *innocent* Criminal. Inno-
“ cent, however, or *not* innocent, his
“ story has attracted the notice of the
“ public; and thus it is, that, hav-
“ ing been obliged every day to
“ dance from Newgate to Pater-noster-
“ Row, and from Pater-noster-Row to
“ Newgate, in order to obtain, and to
“ supply materials for the work, I have
“ myself been in a state of *literary*
“ *purgatory.*”

AFTER all, he added, the work was *not* published; nor, he believed, *ever would be*.—“ Reasons,” it seems, “ very cogent reasons with the Bookseller, “ had suppressed the publication.”—The liberty I had taken in first possessing myself of his other pieces, and

K 2 then

then transcribing them, he freely forgave; and not only forgave, but, as a proof that he was even pleased with the honour I had done them, begged me, if at all it might give me pleasure, to transcribe also the piece we were then talking about; which, accordingly, as forming a counterpart to my own Life—the Life, alas! of a Woman of the Town—I have now the *painful pleasure* of exhibiting, under the title of—what it truly is—

THE

LIFE OF A YOUNG CRIMINAL.

“ IF it can but prove a means of
“ saving one of those many who every
“ year destine themselves by intempe-
“ rance to destruction—well shall I
“ think the pains of writing my Life
“ be-

" bestowed. It is not now a time to
" make use of fiction — double-fet-
" tered, and in my cell, under sen-
" tence of death ; daily, nightly, nay
" hourly, in dreadful expectation of
" the dead warrant's arrival.

" SOME of my past life, indeed, has
" been obnoxious to society ; and for
" that reason, at the age of twenty-
" two, I am to be cut off like a gan-
" gered limb, an unfit member ; yet if
" the following authentic facts are pro-
" perly attended to, they may prevent,
" perhaps, some young men from ex-
" periencing a similar fate. Several
" youth there are at this instant, proud
" of the affectation of riot, debauch,
" and extravagance, who never consi-
" der the consequences which will ine-
" vitably attend neglecting business

“ for what is miscalled Pleasure, until
“ they are, like me, flattered, tempted,
“ or dared into the perpetration of the
“ most base, most horrid actions, by
“ the infamous companions they are
“ enticed to cultivate an acquaintance
“ with.

“ My father — But, good God !
“ how can I own him ! how dare I
“ mention him !—When I consider his
“ former goodness to me, the delight
“ he once took in me, and the agonies
“ he must now endure, what are even
“ the terrors of death to the horrors of
“ such a reflection ! Yet Heaven I
“ hope has been pleased to make me
“ suffer such tortures, to make my pe-
“ nitence more sincere.—I am ready to
“ dash myself to pieces against the
“ walls of my prison, when I reflect
“ what

“ what a disgrace I have brought upon
“ my relations, upon an unblemished
“ family, whose peace of mind I have
“ destroyed : how can I hope to be
“ forgiven ! how can I forgive myself !

“ YET surely there can be no persons
“ in this kingdom so base, so lost to
“ all sense of honour, humanity, and
“ christianity, as to reproach the inno-
“ cent for crimes, which, unknown to
“ them, an abandoned wretch may
“ commit.

“ My father is Vicar of ——. His
“ livings are worth between four and
“ five hundred *per annum*. My sister
“ and myself are the only children my
“ mother and he ever had. How often
“ has the good old man (tears of joy
“ glistening in his eyes) embraced me,

K 4 “ and

“ and called me his blessing !—What
“ am I now ? What does he now
“ call me ?

“ My mother, who was particularly
“ fond of me, never suffered me to be
“ contradicted ; and by the too great
“ indulgence of my tender parent, did
“ I acquire a habit, as I grew older,
“ of expecting the same gratification of
“ every appetite. This grew up with
“ me, and at last, what I could not
“ obtain fairly I took by force or
“ fraud ;—until vengeance stopped me
“ in my fatal career, bringing me
“ loaded with ignominy to that spot,
“ where all must arrive who gallop
“ along the road of vice to destruction.

“ My father’s brother had acquired
“ a very large fortune by merchandiz-
“ ing.

“ ing. He retired from business, came
“ down into the country, and settled
“ near his brother. I was a great fa-
“ vorite of this uncle, who was con-
“ tinually persuading my father to send
“ me to town, and breed me up in a
“ merchant’s counting-house.

“ AFTER what I had heard my uncle
“ say concerning the happy lives of mer-
“ chants clerks in London, I was ur-
“ gent with my father to let me come
“ up to town ; and in about a month
“ after the proposal had been made to
“ him, I was set forward. The even-
“ ing before my departure, my father
“ —methinks I see him this minute ten-
“ derly looking me in the face, and
“ taking hold of my hand—more with
“ the address of a friend than the au-

" thority of a parent, began in the following manner :

" My dear child, you are now going to the best and worst city in Europe. Your future fortune will depend entirely on the acquaintance you contract. Shun much and mix'd company ; be not flattered by common-place phrases of friendship, nor believe mankind when they promise to serve you. Let men of understanding only be your intimates. But the vicious, or the foolish, (which I am sorry to say compose above one-half of the inhabitants in that metropolis, and who like insects in the shambles are to be met with in every coffee-house, tavern, and place of public diversion) avoid like a pestilence. To keep company with
fools,

“ fools, is a disgrace to your under-
“ standing ; to herd with vicious peo-
“ ple, a stain to your reputation. What
“ the mad, the unthinking, the idle of
“ this age call Pleasures, are merely
“ the intoxications of riot ; and every
“ actor in such depraved scenes is sure
“ of ending his part in beggary, in
“ loathsome disease, or infamous pu-
“ nishment.”

“ LITTLE did I then think, that he
“ was foretelling his only son’s ca-
“ tastrophe..

“ AFTER I had been about a year in
“ London, I received letters of con-
“ gratulation from my relations for the
“ good character which I had gained
“ by my behaviour, my master having
“ sent down the most amiable account

K 6. “ of

“ of me imaginable. When I had
“ served two years of my clerkship my
“ father received a letter from my
“ master, wherein he expressed him-
“ self so much in my favour, as to as-
“ sure my uncle and him, that if I con-
“ tinued but to persevere as I had be-
“ gun, he should think himself under
“ an indispensable duty to do every
“ thing in his power to make my fu-
“ ture life happy.

“ I ONLY mention this, to shew how
“ high I must have stood in his esteem ;
“ and as a warning to all favourites,
“ not to build too much on their own
“ merits, or imagine that it is out of
“ Adversity’s power to make them
“ wretched.

ANOTHER

“ ANOTHER year passed on in this happy manner, when my master’s son arrived in England; who hearing what a favourite I was in the family, would needs shew me all the civility good-breeding prompted him to; and among other offers which he meant as acts of kindness, he desired his father to give him leave to introduce me that evening into the company of some men of fashion.

“ As yet I had never been among any persons but the trading part of the city, meeting at the coffee-houses merely for business. Every evening I sat at home, except now and then accompanying my mistress and her daughter to the play. Conscious of my own infirmities in point of behaviour among such guests, I would

" would have declined it; but my
" master saying that it was now time I
" should be properly introduced into
" the best company, and his son giving
" us a very advantageous character of
" that set of his acquaintance, a natural
" youthful curiosity began to make me
" wish to be admitted among such peo-
" ple; and I thought the intervening
" hours the longest that ever I had
" passed, until we set forwards for the
" tavern, which was in Pall-mall, one
" of the principal they told me in
" London. I had often heard the name
" of it mentioned before, but never
" had curiosity enough to enquire any
" farther about such houses; believing
" them to be no more than what
" I had formerly read of the Temples
" of the Bacchanals, receptacles per-
" mitted for the encouragement of
" riot,

“ riot, drunkenness, extravagance and
“ mischief.

“ I was introduced to a very elegantly-dressed party of young persons of my own sex, who received me with great politeness. My heart began to be dilated with pleasure at such a reception : I was transported when I looked round, to think how happy an evening I should enjoy among such a brilliant assembly, whose taste and conversation, from their knowledge of the town, and from travel, I supposed must be admirable.

“ BUT I was disappointed—greatly disappointed, indeed; for all the time before supper was served in, was entirely trifled away in incoherences,

“ herences, only fit for boarding-school
“ romps at breaking-up time.

“ ALL that was said when they had
“ done playing their boyish tricks, was
“ a repetition of the history of some
“ particular day’s sport at the last
“ Newmarket Meeting. This subject
“ brought on an account of what would
“ be done at the next Meeting; and in
“ consequence of which several bets
“ for large sums were said *done* to.
“ After that subject was exhausted, they
“ began to criticise upon Actors and
“ Actresses, and relate, as *bons mots*,
“ several theatrical anecdotes which I
“ remembered to have read in old Jeff-
“ books. I found by what they said,
“ both of dramatic pieces and per-
“ formers, that they never had consi-
“ dered what they spoke upon, but that
“ fashion,

“ fashion, spleen, or vanity, constituted
“ them Critics :

Of many things they spoke, but all awry.

MILTON.

“ Several times there were seven or
“ eight persons speaking at once, and
“ upon three or four different topics,
“ all aloud, all earnest, and all wrong ;
“ for that must ever be the fate of
“ those speakers who will pretend to
“ harangue, without being masters of
“ what they want to talk about.

“ THE arrival of supper, which I
“ think was put upon the table just at
“ eleven in the evening, brought us all
“ to order. We sat down, and lost
“ another hour over our meal, in full as
“ entertaining discourse as before ; such
“ as hobnobbing ; drolling upon some
“ great

“ great feeders ; or one of the company giving reasons why another (his friend) dared not be helped to anything high-seasoned. This gave a hint for a new subject, which was downright obscenity ; and this circulated extremely fast, to the great satisfaction and delight of the waiters, who laughed heartily at several stories that were told, and some of which they were called to witness. Nay, I expected from the very great familiarity which seemed to subsist between the guests and the servitors, that the waiters would have taken chairs after supper was over, and sat down promiscuously with us.

“ THE cloth being taken away, and bottles, glasses, and Doyleys placed before us, a Toast-master was appoint-

“ ed.

“ ed, and the company proceeded seri-
“ ously to what they called the *business*
“ of the evening.

“ THIS business I found to be a strict
“ attention to the laws, methods and
“ ceremonies of giving toasts, and
“ drinking bumpers. The President
“ opened the scene with a lecture upon
“ *Fines, Heeltaps, Day-lights, Sentiments,*
“ and *Demireps.*

“ IT was in vain for me to object my
“ inability to drink ; my master's son
“ swore that I was a Green-horn, and
“ should be entered. I begged hard,
“ and pleaded busines of consequence
“ which I had to do next day. As I
“ was requesting mercy, the Toast-ma-
“ ster interrupted me with a pint-glass
“ full of claret in his hand, and told
“ me,

“ me, that in consideration of my
“ youth, and as I had thrown myself
“ upon the mercy of the court, he
“ would excuse what I had said; but
“ added, that the first person who gave
“ any farther interruption should be
“ fined that measure.

“ THE company being unanimous in
“ behalf of the Toast-master, I submit-
“ ted: I was forced to do as the rest
“ did, and swallowed several bumpers
“ to a routine of phrases, which I af-
“ terwards found had been hackneyed
“ through all the Night-cellars within
“ the Bills of Mortality. Yet even
“ this was worshipful society to what
“ followed.

“ IF the reader of this narrative is
“ ever so little acquainted with the
Town.

“ Town, he must know that it is im-
“ possible for the *Highest Fellow* in Eng-
“ land to labour up the hill of a whole
“ winter’s night without some extraor-
“ dinary auxiliaries; such as a touch at
“ Hazard, or Ladies; because excessive
“ drinking ever occasions excessive
“ dullness; and when persons meet to
“ be jolly, they must have proper ma-
“ terials to keep it up.

“ NAY, if the guests are not ready
“ to mention Women themselves, the
“ waiters, with all that assurance and
“ fawning which those pimps can put
“ on, after they have judged the guests
“ to have drank about a bottle a-piece,
“ enter uncalled for, and acquaint their
“ Honour, that four or five fine Women
“ have stopped in chairs to ask after
“ their Honours, and left word they’ll
“ call

“ call again ; upon which an order is
“ immediately dispatched to the Bar,
“ to signify, that when such and such
“ ladies call again they are to be
“ shewn up.

“ Now these very Women are players
“ to that tavern, and have been wait-
“ ing shut up in a little room (like so
“ many sheep penned up in Smithfield)
“ to be sent for. This is these unhappy
“ Women’s nightly dependance ; and
“ as these are reckoned to be some of
“ the best, what must the life of some
“ of the worst be !

“ THE lady to whom I was recom-
“ mended, I looked upon as the finest
“ woman I had ever seen in my life. I
“ had indeed drank about a dozen bum-
“ pers before she made her appearance,
“ and

“ and therefore of course thought her
“ exquisitely beautiful. I toasted her
“ health in a half-pint ; challenged all
“ the company to drink with me ; was
“ in rapture on her promising to be my
“ bed-fellow ; swore I would pay the
“ whole reckoning ; promised to dine
“ there that day se’nnight ; and was
“ looked upon to be a very *High Fellow*,
“ and that I should soon make a
“ *damn’d jolly one.*

“ My head and heart were employed
“ so much on the felicity I was going
“ to be in possession of, that I paid no
“ attention to their praises, but was
“ very pressing to have chairs called ;
“ and with a pleasure, as I then thought,
“ not to be expressed, I attended my
“ charmer to a bagnio.

“ IN

“ IN the morning I awoke with a violent pain in my head, my lips scorched,
“ and my throat sore. I knew not
“ where I was ; my ideas were all in
“ confusion. I recollect ed something
“ of the preceding night, and that I
“ had a lady with me, who burst into
“ a laugh, on seeing me look so strange;
“ and told me, that I must not get up
“ yet, that she had ordered coffee, that
“ it was coming up, that we would
“ breakfast in bed, and that another
“ nap would quite refresh me.

“ SHE spoke so unconcernedly about
“ being in bed with me, not expressing
“ the least shame at my being a stranger
“ to her, that I was astonished : how-
“ ever, breakfast came up, and after
“ drinking a dish or two I went to
“ sleep.

“ WHEN

“ WHEN I awoke again, I was quite
“ clear in my remembrance, and all the
“ folly of the preceding night’s de-
“ bauchery rushed fresh upon my me-
“ mory. I started up, as if wanting to
“ run away from myself; I looked
“ round the room, and there found
“ every thing seemed to be an emblem
“ of disorder.

“ THE lady’s dress, who was then
“ fast asleep at my side, lay in several
“ parts of the room; her stays were
“ upon the window, her silk gown upon
“ the floor, and a kitten was playing
“ with one of her treble gauze ruffles;
“ one of her fine silver-wrought shoes
“ was at one end of the room, the other
“ upon one of the sconces; one of her
“ silk stockings lay across the fender in
“ the ashes; and as to herself, she lay

“ still fast asleep, to which I suppose a
“ large dram she drank immediately
“ upon the coffee did not a little con-
“ tribute. As her face was turned to
“ me, I had in the morning a full view of
“ that figure, which had but the night
“ before so deeply fascinated me. She
“ had while asleep a surly vulgar coun-
“ tenance, which was now and then
“ thrown into a horror which disco-
“ vered, even when dreaming, that she
“ laboured under a cruel agony of
“ mind.—She slept indeed, but it was
“ the sleep of inquietude ; such a one
“ as, it is said, always attends upon
“ guilty consciences.

“ HER hair had been dressed the pre-
“ ceding evening ; but by the warmth
“ of the bed, the pomatum was melt-
“ ed in some parts, and her hair stood
“ out

“ out matted in clumps of bristles :
“ then some of the pomatum had
“ streamed down her cheeks, and melt-
“ ing with the rouge, which she had
“ very plentifully laid on her face,
“ made her visage appear not *quite* so
“ angelic as it seemed to be the night
“ before ; her lips were furred, her
“ breath hot, and her neck (that ala-
“ baster bosom on which I rested with
“ such rapture but so lately) I could
“ not bear to look at, but jumped out
“ of bed, paid the bill, the extrava-
“ gancy of which I thought of a piece
“ with the rest of the night’s transac-
“ tions, and went home, determined
“ never to be guilty of the same again.

“ As I had promised to dine at the
“ same tavern in a few days, my master’s
“ son reminded me of it the night be-

“ fore the appointment. I told him the
“ resolution I had made ; that I saw the
“ ridiculousness of debauchery ; that I
“ despised it, and had determined never
“ to be led into it again.

“ But he soon shamed me out of my
“ resolution, and rather than be thought
“ ridiculous, I made myself wretched.

“ We met as polite, as friendly as
“ possible ; we supped as usual, but did
“ not seem to be in the same flow of
“ spirits for drinking as before. The
“ novelty of the company was worn off,
“ all were now old faces to each other—
“ they considered me as one of them—
“ they had no more left to do—they
“ were palled—jaded with riot, sick of
“ liquor.—Women were proposed.—
“ No—they objected to them.—At last
“ some

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“ some person mentioned throwing a
“ main.—This was approved of, and
“ box and dice immediately ordered.

“ I sat by while they played at Ha-
“ zard for some time, and was several
“ times urged to try my fortune. They
“ told me what I had to do, and which
“ I saw others do.—I ventured, took
“ the box, and threw in five hands.
“ This emboldened me. When it came
“ to my turn again, I threw with spirit ;
“ and, at the breaking up of the party,
“ found myself possessed of seventy
“ guineas by winning.

“ WE established a Club for play
“ that night, to meet twice a-week. I
“ went home overjoyed, not only at
“ my good fortune, but also at the
“ prospect I had of gaining great sums;

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“ to qualify myself for which I bought
“ the “ Doctrine of Chances,” studied
“ the odds between main and chance,
“ nicks, throwing out, giving money
“ upon the hand, and all the other
“ rules and schemes of Hazard Tables.

“ As I was better versed in figures
“ than any of the rest of my companions
“ at the Club, I did not in the least fear
“ my being able to be their superior in
“ making or taking betts, and conse-
“ quently supposed, from that know-
“ ledge, I should make my fortune.
“ And this is the true principle of a
“ gamester; for, young as I was, Ha-
“ zard-playing was no more pleasure to
“ me, than what a common strumpet
“ receives from a half-hour’s dalliance
“ with a stranger:—but as there was a

“ pro-

“ prospect of getting money by it, I
“ was determined to pursue it.

“ AND here I must caution parents a-
“ gainst too strongly inculcating the love
“ of money, and the power of money,
“ into their children’s minds, as they
“ become avaritious by such preju-
“ dices:—the opinion grows with their
“ growth, and strengthens with their
“ strength; and at last they think no-
“ thing too mean, or too mischievous,
“ if money is to be got by it.

“ WOMEN of the Town are para-
“ doxes. They are both avaritious
“ and extravagant, and several of them
“ will, upon any favourite scheme, go
“ the greatest lengths in profusion, nay
“ even dissipate their last guinea, and
“ at the same time be guilty of the

L 4 “ greatest

“ greatest baseness and servility to gain
“ money.

“ MISERS and gamesters do just the
“ same. From the time Hazard-playing took up my thoughts, or at least
“ the probability of winning against
“ that of losing, I grew indifferent
“ to every thing else. Absorbed in the
“ idea of accumulating wealth, I did
“ not chuse to lay out sixpence on any
“ one amusement but the Hazard-
“ Table : anxiety, however, when I
“ was there, prevented my being amus-
“ ed at it ; it was avarice solely that
“ possessed me.

“ I BELIEVE it to have been in some
“ measure owing to my being so much
“ used to business, that I was a great
“ gainer in about three months.—I was
“ cool,

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“ cool, and could lay my bets better
“ than any Member of the Club, and
“ was soon looked upon as the best cal-
“ culator in it.

“ ONE of the party, whose name was
“ BEETHAM, sent me a card of invita-
“ tion to drink tea that afternoon at his
“ chambers in Lincoln’s-inn : I went,
“ and found him with a couple of very
“ agreeable ladies.

“ HE took me out, and told me
“ that these were a couple of high girls
“ in great keeping, who could only
“ now and then steal out for an hour ;
“ that they had visited him for a frolic ;
“ had a mind to be jolly that evening
“ and keep it up ; and that he had sent
“ for me to make one of the party.

L 5

“ I THANKED

“ I THANKED him for the favour,
“ and we returned to the ladies. I had
“ lost all wish for women, my whole
“ desires being absorbed in a Box and
“ Dice;—but the champaign flew about
“ briskly, the women were in high spi-
“ rits, talked lively, sung prettily, and
“ were in person so charming, that I
“ became really enamoured of one of
“ these ladies, and we agreed to make
“ an excursion together for three or
“ four days. Things of this sort are
“ not more eagerly proposed than em-
“ braced: post-chaises were hired, and
“ we all four set out for Windsor.

“ THIS excursion lost my lady her
“ keeper: that loss, however, sat very
“ lightly upon her; she snapt her
“ fingers when she received the letter,
“ called him *scrub*, and swore she
“ would

“ would live with me upon bread and
“ water.

“ As I had been the means of her
“ losing a good allowance, I could do
“ no less than promise her, upon ho-
“ nour, that she should always find a
“ friend in me :—however, in my own
“ mind, I was determined never to be
“ a dupe to any woman to maintain
“ her :—no, if this girl should want
“ any sum for an exigency, I would
“ advance it, but never keep her.

“ I now began to dislike my master’s ;
“ was seldom at home ; had letters out
“ of the country filled with remon-
“ strances ; all which, however, I ne-
“ ver condescended to answer.

“ My mistress undertook once or
“ twice to talk to me in the motherly

“ strain, *for my good*, as she was pleased
“ to preface it ; but I was too far gone
“ to let advice alter me. I was infatu-
“ ated ; I saw nothing but prospects of
“ golden pleasures before me ; for by
“ this time I had, by only playing in
“ that Club, accumulated upwards of
“ fifteen hundred pounds.

“ THE lady whom I had deprived
“ of her friend was still my *Woman*,
“ but one who, except a treat now and
“ then at the tavern, an odd thing for
“ a gown, a fancy ring, or some other
“ such toy, did not cost me sixpence.
“ She never asked me for a shilling,
“ and that generosity of temper was
“ one reason of my admiring her.

“ HAD our meeting at Hazard con-
“ tinued, I don’t in the least doubt but
“ that

“ that I should have made my fortune;
“ one night, however, an unfortunate
“ quarrel dissolved it.

“ A DISPUTE arose between my
“ master’s son and one of the company
“ about a bett.—Words grew very
“ high, and unknown to the rest of the
“ members (after the quarrel was
“ seemingly made up) these two ad-
“ journed to the Rose, when about half
“ an hour after four o’clock in the
“ morning my friend was brought
“ home to his father’s speechless, run
“ through the body, and expired in
“ half an hour afterwards.

“ THE agony of the family is not to
“ be described—My master ordered
“ me to be told, as soon as I came home,
“ that as he had lost his only son by
“ a quar-

“ a quarrel at a gaming-table, at which
“ he was assured I was one of the prin-
“ cipal, and that I also kept a common-
“ woman, he did not think it consistent
“ either with his reputation or interest
“ to entertain me any longer in his
“ house.

“ I DID not think it worth while to
“ reply to this message, but immediate-
“ ly ordered a coach, packed up my
“ things, and drove to my girl’s lodg-
“ ings.

“ I now commenced Man of the
“ Town, wore my laced suits, supped
“ every night at one or another of the
“ noted taverns with my Woman and
“ others of the same rank, gave my opini-
“ on at the Bedford, made a great
“ noise at Epsom races, and appeared
“ to

“ to be of that pitiful consequence
“ which every lounging about Town
“ assumes.

“ I was bowed to most submissively
“ at the Shakespeare, the Bedford Head
“ and Arms, King’s Arms, Star and
“ Garter, &c. by all the landlords, and
“ addressed with the most servile flattery
“ by them. Themselves, their larders,
“ their horses, post-chaises, or what-
“ ever else they kept, were always at
“ my service. Their pimps flew to me
“ at a beckon ; and every Mistress or
“ Woman of Pleasure in keeping was
“ fond of inviting me to parties with
“ them.

“ I now associated with those who
“ are stigmatized by the name of Gamb-
“ lers ; however, I soon knew as much
“ as

“ as they did. They dressed well, lived
“ gay, and kept the best company ; so
“ did I. Every thing went on glibly ;
“ I could play with any of the most
“ noted gamesters, because I knew they
“ always acted upon honour with their
“ acquaintance.

“ I WENT to Scarborough and York
“ races ; lived as a man of fashion
“ ought to do ; and although I was by
“ this time known to have no other way
“ of supporting myself but by gaming,
“ and was a gamester professed, yet as
“ long as I dressed well, paid my play-
“ debts honourably, and entertained
“ elegantly, I was intimate with, and
“ visited by, several people of fashion.

“ HOWEVER, I found my finances,
“ on my return to London for the win-
ter,

“ ter, rather impaired by too high ex-
“ pences ; but as I had contracted a
“ large acquaintance, I expected to
“ reap the benefit of it ; especially as I
“ had luckily, as I then thought, gain-
“ ed a friend in the gaming way, who
“ promised to let me into some schemes
“ I was yet a stranger to, and we were
“ by agreement to go shares in the
“ profits.

“ THE reader, if he will give himself
“ the trouble to recollect, will consider,
“ that I must be very young during these
“ transactions, and therefore wonder
“ how I could commence Gambler un-
“ der age ; but that is easily accounted
“ for : the younger I was, the less liable
“ I was to be suspected ; I had made it
“ my study ; I was apt at the profes-
“ sion ; the company of Kept Women
“ and

“ and men who gamed, bronzed me
“ into an unblushing behaviour; and
“ before I was eighteen, few people
“ knew more of playing all the games
“ than I did.

“ My youth, which was my protec-
“ tor in gaming, ruined me in my con-
“ nection with women. Vain, and full
“ of desire, I took pride in being
“ thought to possess so fine a woman,
“ and from her well-acted endearments
“ I grew to doat upon her.

“ For some weeks I observed her to
“ be more thoughtful than usual, and
“ involuntary sighs frequently to burst
“ from her. I was uneasy; but she
“ never would tell me the cause, though
“ I pressed her often: however, I was
“ determined to know; and with this
“ stale

“ stale trick, this scene which I have
“ seen represented upon the Stage, was
“ I taken in.—So true it is, THAT BY
“ HIS WHORE’S CUNNING, OR BY HIS
“ OWN, EVERY KNAVE AT LAST FALLS
“ A SACRIFICE.

“ I SENT for her upper servant to
“ the *Fountain* one day, and desired her
“ to tell me what was the matter with
“ her mistress; upon which she, who
“ had been long waiting for this cue,
“ began a most melancholy story, how
“ well her mistress had lived when the
“ last gentleman kept her whom she
“ left for me, and that ever since her
“ mistress had been running behind-
“ hand; but that she loved me so well,
“ she was not willing for me to know
“ it, because she said I might suspect
“ it was only a scheme, a decoy;—
“ but

“ but (the girl continued) as she hoped
“ to be saved, and upon her honour,
“ her mistress went in fear of being ar-
“ rested every day, because she would
“ not go into company, her love for
“ me was so great.”

“ I SNAPT at the bait, and ordered
“ her slyly to get me a list of her mi-
“ stress's creditors. She had it ready,
“ she said, on purpose to shew me se-
“ veral times, but her heart failed her.
“ Even this did not open my eyes ; I
“ could not discover that there must be
“ some deeper design in this ready-
“ wrote-out list than I at first saw—No ;
“ I was prepossessed, and the next day
“ discharged them all, by sending my
“ girl the contents of the list, which
“ I think came to two hundred and
“ forty pounds seven shillings.

“ By

“ By this rashness I had not left myself above an hundred pounds in the world.—I do not doubt but the reader will observe, that this was not acting like a professed gamester, to strip himself for a mistress ; but then be it remembered, that I was very young, that my passions were very warm, and that I thought I was doing a meritorious act, in saving a girl from ruin, who had reduced herself to that condition merely for the love of me.

“ —I have since known better.

“ THE person who had agreed we should share profits together, called upon me the next day, and told me he had a glorious scheme, but that I must bring about three hundred pounds with me just to make a shew with, as he had one of the finest

“ Bubbles

“ Bubbles in the world. I did not
“ let him know that I had parted from
“ my capital, but, as I depended upon
“ him; agreed to meet him the next
“ day, and pretending earnest business
“ to transact, we parted.

“ I HAD so good an opinion of my
“ new partner, that I reckoned all he
“ said to be gospel; and as I had several
“ valuable trinkets by me, I that af-
“ ternoon disposed not only of them,
“ but of my cloaths, linen, horses,
“ every thing that I could raise money
“ with, and next evening, according
“ to appointment, came in with no
“ less than four hundred and twenty
“ pounds.

“ OF this I immediately informed
“ my partner: a bank was made, the
“ Bubble

“ Bubble ushered in, and we won two
“ hundred pounds of him before twelve
“ at night. This transaction took place
“ at what was called a private Card-
“ Assembly.—We went to supper about
“ one; and what they gave me in my
“ liquor I know not, but I soon grew
“ fuddled, and remembered very little
“ of what happened afterwards.

“ My servant the next day brought
“ me a letter from my partner, which
“ informed me that I had, by getting
“ drunk, ruined both him and me,
“ because I would play myself, and
“ there was no hindering me, he said;
“ that I had not only lost all he had
“ won, but also played away all our
“ stock; that for his part he had been
“ obliged to go a-tick for fifty pounds,
“ which he desired I would send him
“ per

“ per bearer, and I should have it in
“ October Meeting.

“ I COULD not speak for some time ;
“ nay, my servant two or three times
“ desired to know what answer he should
“ send the messenger :—at last I told
“ him to say it was very well ; and sunk
“ down upon my pillow, in horrors
“ which the honest part of the world
“ cannot even fancy to themselves.

“ AFTER being tormented with all
“ the agonies of mind it is possible, I
“ believe, to feel from remorse for the
“ crimes I had committed, I jumped
“ out of bed, hurried on my cloaths,
“ and hastened to inform my girl of
“ my damned ill-luck, as I was certain
“ she could and would help me ; since,
“ to my knowledge, she could raise
“ upon

“ upon her jewels above a thousand
“ pounds, some of which I had given
“ her, and which her confidante had
“ told me were in pawn when I sent
“ her the money.—But by an accident,
“ as I lay there one night, (I believe it
“ was the night following) on an alarm
“ of fire, I discovered that she had not
“ pawned them.

“ HOWEVER, I was sure she would
“ pawn them for me, and therefore de-
“ termining not to make myself uneasy
“ any longer, went to her house in very
“ good spirits.

“ THE maid informed me her mi-
“ stress was gone to one of those houses
“ where ladies and gentlemen usually
“ meet in an evening: it was in the
“ Strand, and remarkable for the resort

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“ not only of girls in low circumstances,
“ but also of Women of the Town who
“ were better provided for.

“ THE master and mistress of this
“ house having always expressed the
“ most cordial friendship for me, I was
“ pleased to hear she was gone there;
“ and as they had several times prof-
“ fered to lend me a sum, and told
“ me, and had swore to it, that if ever
“ I wanted any sum of money that they
“ could command, it was only ask and
“ have, I should be sure of it, I resolved
“ to discover to them the situation of
“ my affairs.

“ WHEN I came into the room
“ where my lady was, there happened
“ only to be the landlord, landlady,
“ and my mistress. As soon as I opened
“ the

“ the door, they each took me round
“ the neck, and almost stifled me with
“ kusses.

“ THE landlord begged pardon, he
“ said, of me : to be sure, he was not
“ of a jealous disposition, but if he was
“ to be jealous of any one gentleman,
“ it would be of me ; for his wife loved
“ me so well, that she often talked of
“ me in her sleep.”

“ NAY, for that matter, my dear
“ soul, (replied his very polite spouse)
“ you love his Honour as much as I
“ can do.—Yes, Sir, (addressing her-
“ self to me) my JEMMY is the most
“ fondest of you nor he is of any one
“ gemmun in England. I’m sure I
“ wonders, so I does, what you can do
“ to make all the men and women so

“ fond of you—I’m sure, if you want-
“ ed it, you mought have all we were
“ worth.”

“ My girl interrupted her with an
“ oath ; then taking hold of the bowl,
“ stretched out her arm, seized me by
“ the hand, and looking me full in the
“ face, exclaimed, that if ever she re-
“ fused sharing her last sixpence with
“ me, she wished the most bitter evils
“ might befall her that I ever heard
“ expressed.

“ THE landlord JEMMY would insist
“ (begging my pardon) to treat me
“ with a bottle of claret. He brought
“ it in, and pouring out a bumper for
“ each, drank my health, and over-
“ flowed with protestations of kindness
“ to me.

“ I THOUGHT

“ I THOUGHT this to be a good time
“ to open what I intended ; I therefore,
“ in a few words, related my situation,
“ and desired JEMMY would lend me two
“ hundred pounds for two months.

“ I TOOK notice, during the latter part
“ of my relation, that he was trying to
“ put the cork in the bottle again ; and
“ when I had finished, turning his head
“ to the door, he called out, *I'm coming,*
“ Sir ; and going out without giving
“ me any answer, was instantly followed
“ by his wife.

“ I WAS now left with my mistress ;
“ and on asking her if she thought
“ there was any thing so very odd in
“ what I requested of the landlord and
“ his wife that they should leave the
“ room so abruptly, and desiring her
“ to tell me what she thought of it ;

“ she, as if just waked, gave a start, and
 “ replied—“ Lord, don’t bother one
 “ about it! To be sure every body
 “ knows their own affairs best! Do
 “ ring the bell, will you? I want some-
 “ body to get me a chair.”

“ WHY, where are you going?”

“ WHY, I must go to the SHAK-
 “ SPEARE: I promised.”

“ BUT you promised to spend the
 “ evening with me?”

“ BUT I can’t though. Can you
 “ now, in your own conscience, expect
 “ a girl who has her bread to get, can
 “ confine herself to one man? I’m sure
 “ it is an unreasonable out-of-the-way
 “ thing to suppose it.”

BEFORE

“ BEFORE I could reply, the land-
“ lady and landlord entered; and after
“ some altercation between them who
“ should speak first, the landlord thus
“ delivered himself—that as how truly,
“ if he had any money in the house,
“ why I was welcome to it; adding, “ I’d
“ do any thing to help any distressed
“ gentleman.—Betty, why don’t you
“ take the cordial bottle away, and
“ those two large spoons?—But in-
“ deed, Sir, I have so many bad
“ debts, and am obliged to tip so
“ much to folks of the right sort,
“ to prevent informations—you take
“ me—that nobody upon the face of
“ the earth wants money so much as
“ I.—Bess, haven’t you got the gen-
“ tleman’s bill? There it is, Sir—not
“ much.—Every body knows I never
“ loves to sponge upon my friends; it

“ is but twenty-five pounds in the
“ whole.—Take your own time. A
“ week hence, Sir, will suit me as well
“ as now; only, Sir, I can’t afford to
“ give any more credit;”—and away
“ they went out of the room, the land-
“ lady telling my mistress she wanted
“ to speak with her.

“ I SAT a moment, and as my lady
“ was rising to go out, I desired her
“ to stop, just to tell me what she
“ thought of such usage; when her re-
“ ply was as follows :

“ THEY are a couple of *scrubs*; and
“ for my part, I’ll never use the house
“ again; and I shall look upon you to
“ be a most mean-spirited fellow, if
“ you don’t pay them their bill imme-
“ diately.”

“ BUT

“ BUT how can I do it? I have not
“ a guinea, nor one thing I can raise a
“ guinea upon.—If you'll lend me the
“ money—”

“ ME! If I have any more in the
“ whole known world than this fix-and-
“ nine-pence, may I never see the face
“ of day-light again! I'm sure I take
“ it very ill your asking of me, so I
“ do—when you know I would pawn
“ my smock off my back for you, so I
“ would.”

“ WELL, don't cry, my dear girl; you
“ have superfluous plate enough upon
“ your sideboard to raise that money.”

“ YES! and so then my servants
“ would miss it, and they'd make a
“ hubbub in the neighbourhood; and

“ so then my landlord would come and
“ seize for rent.”

“ But have you not spare jewels
“ enough?”

“ No, that I ha’n’t, and you know
“ it—I have not enough, so far from
“ having any to spare. Why now,
“ didn’t KITTY CLEAR but last Opera-
“ night get the What-you call’em Um-
“ bassadores Sekertary, only because
“ she had more diamonds than I on?—
“ and didn’t you promise me I should
“ have some more? Howsomdever, I
“ scorn to reproach any Gemmun for
“ breaking his word. To be sure, you
“ have done as much as you can for
“ me, and I should be the most un-
“ grateful bitch in the world, if I didn’t
“ do every thing I could for you; but
“ you

“ you are axing me things out of my
“ power, unless you would have me
“ starve, and that could do neither you
“ nor I good. I would pawn my smock
“ for you, I am sure, to serve you. But
“ pray, for God’s sake, if you love me,
“ pay these wretches their bill.”

“ But how can I do it without
“ money ?”

“ How ? Why before I would let
“ such creatures dun me for money,
“ damme if I would not hang myself,
“ or I’d do something to deserve hang-
“ ing, that I would — Pray, are you the
“ first gentleman that has come to mis-
“ fortunes ? See if I wou’dn’t make
“ the public pay me ; I’d try my chance
“ upon the Road.”

“ WHAT, would you have me turn
“ highwayman ?”

“ GOOD Lord ! is that such a great
“ matter ? Haven’t you been a game-
“ ster ? And pray which is worse ? Not
“ a highwayman, I’m sure.”

“ Ay, but consider : suppose I should
“ be taken ?”

“ Ay, now, that’s the thing !—I
“ wish I was a man, see if I should be
“ afraid of running any risque. I see
“ what sort of a spirit you have. But
“ mark me ! If you don’t find out
“ some way or other to get yourself
“ clear of these people, and prove to
“ me you are a man of spirit, never
“ shall you again come between a pair
“ of

“ of sheets with me ; so mind what I say
“ to you, that’s all, and I swear it.”

“ SHE left me immediately, and af-
“ ter about a quarter of an hour’s ré-
“ flection with myself—not from re-
“ morse, but to consider only how I
“ might reconcile myself to my Wo-
“ man, and shew her I had not a mean
“ spirit—I found no way so eligible as
“ the Road ; and the next morning, pro-
“ perly equipt, I set out, met with some
“ success, wrote her word how I went
“ on, and remitted her money to pay
“ the bill, as she desired I would in her
“ answer to one of my letters, but
“ which is not yet paid. Then I com-
“ mitted a robbery, for which a great
“ reward was published to apprehend
“ him or them that did it.

“ SHE

“ SHE only knew where I was, and
“ since my conviction I have ascer-
“ tained that she went halves with the
“ Thief-takers. I was seized, and am
“ to suffer on Monday next; but as I
“ ought to die in charity with all the
“ world, I freely forgive her. Nor let
“ any one reproach her for her beha-
“ viour to me, since she only acted in
“ character; because it is impossible
“ for Prostitutes to be any other than
“ base: or how can I complain of any
“ persons betraying me for a reward,
“ after they have been despicable
“ enough to let themselves out for hire
“ as common hacknies ?”

IF I was tired before of LONDON, and
of LONDON’s ways, I was now perfectly
fick of them. The History of this hap-
less Youth perfectly harrowed up my
soul

soul with anguish ; and every shilling I possessed, with pleasure would I have sacrificed, if by sacrificing it I could have purchased for him the blessings of peace, comfort, and lengthened days. So I told FLYBLOWN, who, with a significant shake of his head, told me that money, with all its charms, could not work miracles.

OBSERVING him prepare to take his leave of me, I slipped into his hand five guineas, accompanied with a purse.—The purse I begged he would keep for my sake ; and as for the guineas, few as they were in number, I could not help adding, that I hoped he would use them with that discretion of which, in the midst of all his scenes of dissipation, he could not but feel the necessity; especially after having so often, like myself,

self, known the want—the *pinching* want—of as few halfpence.

He now politely bade me adieu ; and the next morning, true to the resolution I had formed, I prepared to retire into the country, and break off all my connections and dependencies. I had acquired a large sum of money, and was determined no longer to bear capriciousness.—My house I let to my partner ; my jewels, side-board of plate, and other such superfluities, I sold by auction.—I had found out a place in the country much to my satisfaction, and there I was resolved honestly to spend the remainder of my days : and as I had hitherto been careful of my person, I thought it was time for me to consider of what was hereafter to happen.

As

ACCORDINGLY, as soon as I had settled my affairs, I set out for Devonshire, attended only by a female servant whose fidelity I had often experienced.—All the way on the road, I reflected with rapture on the alteration of my condition. The fields looked so lovely, so sweet smelt the air, the birds sung out so musically, that all seemed paradise around me.

I WAS recommended to board at a Clergyman's house in the Southams. I passed for the Widow of an Officer in the army; was treated with the utmost respect; and in a few weeks I perceived a remarkable alteration in myself for the better.

My spirits, my appetite, were mended; my colour came once more in my cheeks;

cheeks; I could hardly believe I was the same person, who, but so lately, had looked so pale, so relaxed, so void of appetite, without any spirits but what the fictitious help of liquor afforded me.

ALL the enjoyments I before had tasted, compared to my present satisfactions, were only so many delirious dreams: I was no longer liable to be sent for to any libidinous debauchees, to endure all the misery of feigning affection, and suffering all the debilitated attempts of vitiated powerless tormenting inclination.

I WAS now my own mistress, and none but those who have been dependant, and dependant in so abject a state as Prostitution is, can conceive the happiness

pines of my change.—My life was now, indeed, a life of luxury : the more I thought upon London, the more I laughed at it. I enjoyed the happiness of my situation, and was resolved never to trouble the Metropolis again, nor be troubled in it.

I COMPARED my late life and present condition to that of a lad who had been decoyed from his friends or master to ramble about the country with Strollers, and was at last returned to his friends again, and lived happy. Yet it is often seen, that when once rambling has been practised by any young fellow, let his prospects be ever so good afterwards, he never can settle as he should do : there is a kind of infatuation in irregularity ; a life of ease and innocence soon grows

grows insipid to those whose youth has been intoxicated by any intemperances.

IT was so with me. The life I lived of ease and innocence began to be too easy for me. The prejudices I had imbibed could not be eradicated : I was vice-tainted, depraved in taste, and all the fine prospects of the country began to grow fainter and fainter to me.

I BEGAN to talk of London to my servant, as we used to walk out together ; was wont to say, that I wondered what our old friends were doing in Town ; and used to wish I could see them, and not be seen, just for half an hour or so : though I declared I never intended to live in London again.

BUT I did not know myself ; the more healthy I grew, the more I was in spirits,

rits, and high in blood, and began to wish for some of those satisfactions with which though I had formerly been glutted even to loathing, yet now a total deprivation of them made their remembrance sweet——as prohibited goods will ever be most sought after.

It is Hamlet, I think, who says, “Frailty, thy name is Woman.”—I confess myself to be so.—I grew tired for want of variety; the same scenes every day made the country palling. I could not bear any longer to get up in a morning, to walk merely for the sake of walking; to eat, drink, sleep one twenty-four hours, and the next, and the next, ditto repeated, without one the most trivial incident to alter the round.—I pined for novelty; and as the Assizes were to be held soon at Exeter, I desired my
landlord

landlord would write, and secure lodgings for me there during the week.

I APPEARED at the Assembly, and was complimented very much not only upon my person, but my taste in dress. The cloaths which I wore, though plain silks, were well fancied, and I believe not inelegantly put on. My behaviour I chose should be consonant to my appearance, and I had the pleasure of hearing, in half-whispers, from all the parts of the room I happened to be in, that I was a charming creature, and they were certain that I must be a person of distinction.

THE Vicar with whom I lodged in the Southams, had recommended me to dance with a young gentleman of his acquaintance,

quaintance, whose estate lay near Mr. DERNLY the Vicar's residence.

THIS West-country 'Squire had two hundred pounds per annum, was a passable man as to figure, and seemed to have a great share of good-nature and some understanding, yet nothing either in mind or person striking. Notwithstanding this, I had been so long rusticated from any thing like address and gaiety, that I was peculiarly pleased at the assiduities of my partner; nay, the exercise, the music, the warmth of the room, the sipping of negus now and then, the pressing of palms, and other little auxiliaries which happen on a night's country-dancing, and exhilarate the heart, had such an effect on me, that I, who had for so many months lived recluse, was now on fire for possession;

session; the latent sparks of impure love were awakened in me; I had no checks from rising shame to deter me, no tender conscientious reflections to damp my desires; but eager to indulge the impetuosity of my passions, I was mad for enjoyment.

My partner attended me from the Assembly to my lodgings. Luckily the family, to shew me the greater respect, sat up for me; for had he (as I could not but ask him to walk in when he had ushered me home) accepted my invitation, and we had been left alone, I should have yielded to his least importunity; nay, so ungovernable were my desires, that I should more than half-way have met his wishes.

As

As soon as he saw me home he took his leave of me, and for the first time saluted me.—That kiss—I could then say with the girl in the Beggar's Opera,

“ His kiss was so sweet, &c.

“ That I languished and pined till I granted
“ the rest.”

IN the afternoon he called to enquire after my health. I was still in bed, reflecting on what was likely to happen; but on hearing his name, desired he would stay, and huddling on my cloaths went down to him.

BEFORE I entered the parlour he made the Vicar, my landlord, his confidant, and begged his recommendation to me, that I would accept of him as a husband.

WHEN the Vicar told me this, and at the same time gave me a good character

of a person whom I already thought so favourably of, I replied, that “ I did “ not know—I should see—I could not “ tell—I was very happy in my single “ state—however, I could not say”—and such evasive maiden-like answers.—But as he obtained that day my consent to visit me, he soon after obtained my assent to be married ; though before that ceremony passed between us, I honestly discovered to him my former situation and way of life.

HE was charmed with my sincerity, and the very next day succeeding my discovery of myself we were married, when I once more gave up all thoughts of London.

I WAS now a lawful wife.—There was something I thought awful in the ceremony, and after it was over, I imagined

ed myself of more consequence than ever I had before been. Surely, then, (thought I) there must be something really great in Virtue, if only the outward part of it can seem thus satisfactory.

I HAD received him as my husband, because I thought him to be a man whom I could like; but I soon began to esteem him; and he was fond of me beyond description. I doated upon him; my whole delight was in him: I was the girl of his affection; he the man of my heart. He married a Prostitute, one whom he knew to be so; yet he tenderly loved me; my gratitude to him therefore was unbounded.

How different are the true sensations of love from the violence of inordinate

N 2 desires!

desires ! I had often indeed, warmed by bumpers and loose conversation, made an assignation with some man in the company, not for the sake of lucre, but what I then thought love, and made him my bed-fellow for twenty-four hours; whilst, in fact, the only and real impulse for my choice was ~~whim~~, some particularities in the evening's conversation, or that unaccountable *somewhat* which so often unites two persons of different sexes on their first meeting. Thus it was with me: I used now and then to indulge, and, giving a loose to desire, revel with some fellow of my fancy for three or four days; but when the dull pause of exhausted appetite came on, and the edge of novelty was worn off, we then, being heartily satisfied on each side, used to part with
the

the most extreme indifference, as we had met in the highest rapture.

BUT it was not so now : I was still eager in passions ; my desires were full as strong as formerly, but they were properly conducted : my affections were sincere ; and I, who formerly was fatigued, was sick of every man's fondness which I was obliged to endure (for though I was sure to be most liberally paid for every kiss that I granted, yet such toyings were then the most nauseous of all actions to me) ; yet even I now could sit for hours fondling with my husband. All now was elysium with me ; I could dwell for hours on his lips ; it was Happiness to me when he laid his cheek on my neck. Nay, I was even altered in my taste. No more I wished to change ; I despised variety ; and my

whole wishes were centered in him, whom, without shame and affectation, I could publicly express my love for.

THE following winter I was obliged to come to London on account of my money; all which I generously, some persons may say foolishly, gave my husband. But the most knowing persons, they say, are one time or another the most simply taken in.

WHEN we came to London, and I had settled every thing to my own satisfaction, I had not even a wish left for curiosity; my husband was every thing to me; I every thing to him.

BUT little did I know either of us; for this *dear* husband, this my lord and master, to whom I had made a present
of

of upwards of five thousand pounds, and of a person he was often pleased to say superior to all the fortunes in the world; whose look was enough to make me fly to serve him, and prevent his even mentioning what he wanted; yet this very spouse, when we had been only a week in Town, picked up a girl in the Strand; and the correspondence continued with such fondness on his side, that he took her into keeping, and told me he liked London so well, he did not intend to leave it for the winter season.

His will was to me a law; though I thought it very strange that any thing could so particularly and suddenly attach him to a place to which he had always before expressed a dislike. But I was not long kept in ignorance. Too much experienced myself formerly in

feigning fondness, he could not deceive me : I found soon that his affections were estranged from me. 'Tis true, indeed, he endeavoured to behave as tenderly as ever ; but with me that could not do. I soon discovered his haunts ; and one day about three in the afternoon, surprised him and his lady in bed together.

WOULD not any one suppose that I should rave, fall upon the woman, raise the neighbourhood, and do every other outrageous action ? Had it been a man who had only *kept* me, I should have done so ; but the case was different, I was married : I scorned to expose either my husband or myself any more than what my first bursting into the room might occasion. The curtains were undrawn, and no window-shutters to the sashes.

They

They both started upright at my entrance, and the girl seemed startled, as at the sight of a bailiff : while he could not stir, but sat like a person struck with a blast ; and the use of his limbs, even power of motion in his face, was taken from him.

ALL in rage as I was—I own, the ugliness of the girl's person, and her gallant's dastardly appearance, made part of my fury subside into contempt, so that I gained spirits sufficient to seat myself ; then looking at the unhappy girl, desired her not to be frightened—told her that I knew it was not her fault—that I pitied her—that I knew too much of the miseries of her profession to blame her for accepting of a man who would maintain her :—but, addressing myself to my husband—

WHAT happened afterwards for some time I cannot relate : I was insensible. Overcome by the different stifled passions of resentment, disappointment, pride, all at once striving to master me, it was too much for me ; I sunk down in a swoon.—I was taken home, put to bed, and a fever ensued, which was attended with a miscarriage. I was for some time given over ; but resolution I think more than medicine recovered me. I was determined that a husband who had behaved so ungratefully to me, should never break my heart. I strove against my illness, and at last, contrary to all expectations, recovered my former health, and could even endure again to look at myself.

My Husband—with reverence let me mention so dignified a title—thought proper

proper only to enquire after my health, but never chose to appear in sight ; and when he found my constitution established, went over with his lady to Jamaica to a brother he had there, who had lived many years upon the island.

VILLAIN and fool as the fellow was on whom I had so rashly bestowed myself, yet I must do him the justice to add, that he did not take my fortune with him ; he left me above two-thirds of it ; and having sold it all out of the Stocks, and taken Bank-bills for the money, leaving only five hundred pounds for himself, he sent me the Bank-notes for the residue in a packet by my servant-maid ; and also a deed, wherein he made over the Devonshire estate to me, as it was left him in such a man-

ner that he could dispose of it to whomsoever he pleased.

HE at the same time wrote a letter to the Clergyman in the Southams, wherein he corroborated the powers he had given me, and at the same time laid the blame of his misconduct entirely upon himself; nay, like a malefactor confessed that he was infatuated, and did not know what he did.

IN one part of the letter he observed to the Vicar, that his wife ought to remember "*what she had formerly been herself.*" Had he been near me at the instant I read that line, I should have spit in his face. The first part of his letter had won me over almost to forgive him; but that meanness of betraying me, and reproaching me!—Oh Man!

Man!

Man ! ye are *all* alike ; ye are, upon my soul !

I RETURNED into Devonshire, and lived upon my estate, without breaking in upon my ready money in the Stocks, but left it there to accumulate. I saw no company for the first six months after I returned home, except my acquaintance the Vicar and his family ; and with them only, and my favourite servant, whom I had put upon the footing of my companion more than a dependent, did I once more recover my tranquillity : and such was the effect of high health and spirits in me, that when I was entirely recovered, and my complexion established, I used now and then, when I looked in the glass, to think that I was too young to bury myself entirely from the world.

THIS

THIS was also what my companion would suggest; but I answered her always in the common-place cant, “ that happiness is contentment;—that we should not give encouragement to our wishes, the events of which may be dangerous;—and that innocence and temperance was the only state of joy among mortals;”—for I could philosophise as well as Seneca.—But now, how do I despise their unfeeling declamations! How easy is it for Affluence, lolling on a sofa, in a well-warmed room, the floor-carpet spread, and every side of the place where he is reposing beaming taste and splendor; how easy, I say, is it for such a one to reason upon the hardships of life, and talk of the charms of philosophy; that philosophy will teach you to bear them; that philosophy is an antidote to adversity; and that

that philosophy is—*Hang up philosophy!*— or give it the insolvent who wanders wet-shod along the street in a cold winter's night, and see what he will say to it. Enquire of Nature after Philosophy; her answer will be, that the quack Reason has hired him to be his Merry-Andrew, but that for her own part she keeps no such company.

ONE day Mr. DERNLY, (which was the Vicar's name with whom I had lived in the Southams) calling to see me, and the conversation happening to turn on the ill usage I had received from my husband, he begged to know what my husband meant by his inuendo in the letter to him, of *what I had been formerly.*

I WAS

I WAS in one of those communicative moods, which perhaps, reader, you may have at times been seized with, viz. “the pleasure of speaking about your-self.”

I RELATED to him the most material transactions of my life, as I had always, from his deportment, from the manner in which he brought up his family, and from the very particular and respectful manner in which he always behaved to me, thought no inquietude could happen to me from his knowing *what I had been formerly*. No inquietude indeed of consequence did happen from it; but I lost a friend, a sincere friend by it, and gained—a lover—a fulsome admirer—a gallant turned of forty—a father of children.—Clergymen are liable to be tempted as well as laymen; but I no more

more suspected that he would ever assume the man of intrigue with me, than I did that I should ever grant him the last favour.

FROM the day, however, when I acquainted him with *what I had been*, his manner of talking to me was in a less respectful stile than usual.—I caught him several times gazing at me with eyes which to me too well spoke what he wished for. When we were together, he sought every occasion of taking hold of my hands, of playing with them, and in about a fortnight after relating to him my life, used to make as free with my lips as if he had been married to me.

BUT every trivial advance of this sort which I permitted, was not out of an extraordinary inclination or liking to the man,

man, the particular man whom I suffered to kiss me:—all those delicacies of connection between affection and embrace were dead in me. Like a boarding-school girl, I only now considered the immediate contact of the sexes; all the remains of depraved appetite glowed again in my blood, and I became eager after sensualities.

My husband had left me upwards of a year, during all which time I had not been guilty of the least action of irregularity. But I began to be warmed by the kisses of my new suitor. Curiosity, my own inclination, and that unaccountable maxim of our sex, viz. “ If ‘ I have a mind to do it, who shall hinder me?’ ” hurried me on, and I commenced an intrigue with DERNLY.

BUT

BUT here were no gay desires, no wanton murmurs, no Cupids flying with festoons of roses over our heads, nor little dimpled Loves laughing at our dalliance: with us it was only mechanical fruition, just the same appetite as we sat down to dinner with.

DURING this hoggish commerce, which was hardly more than a drunken man's frolic—for though true voluptuousness, where the mind acts in union, and the spirits of each side are all in full flow, enjoyment, even kissing, is exquisite; yet the mere sensuality of what is called possession, is rather to be despised than desired —— during this hoggish commerce, I say, Mr. DERN-LY one Sunday happening to officiate for the clergyman of the parish where

where I lived, I went to church, and, much to my surprise, heard him preach a sermon against Adultery.

I was terrified at his hypocrisy ; and went home shocked to think that I could ever, and by choice too, or at least by a sort of inclination, receive a man to my arms, who dared to mock Religion, and that too in the House of Prayer.

I told my servant of my surprize when I came home ; but she had heard the sermon, and was not a whit less astonished than I was. I was determined to break off the connection, which I immediately did, and set out for London the next day, in spite of all his intreaties to the contrary.

WHEN I came to London, my first business

business was to enquire after my husband, that most *grateful* of all men.

Poor creature ! he had come ashore but the day before I arrived in London. The lady with whom he had eloped to Jamaica had left him for a richer lover : That, and I believe some reflections on the manner in which he had used me, preyed upon his mind, so that he pined away by degrees. The death of his elder brother, which happened in about seven months after he arrived there, made him worth upwards of ten thousand pounds ; but this could not make him easy. All his cry was, that he would come and die in England, bring me his fortune, and beg my forgiveness ; all which happened as he desired. He found out where I lived. At first sight of him my resentment vanished ; and for

for the remainder of his life, which was not above four months, I convinced him that I had entirely forgot his former errors.

AFTER his death, I once more retired to my Devonshire estate, where I now employ myself in works of charity; and have at last found, that, spite of all our fantastic dreams of joy, either from Wit, Splendor, Intrigue, Homage, or any other incidental Epicurean luxury, there is no permanent pleasure, no solid happiness that can be felt, except that which arises from the satisfaction of DOING GOOD.

T H E E N D.

Apr 21, 45

[May, 1884, 20,000]

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